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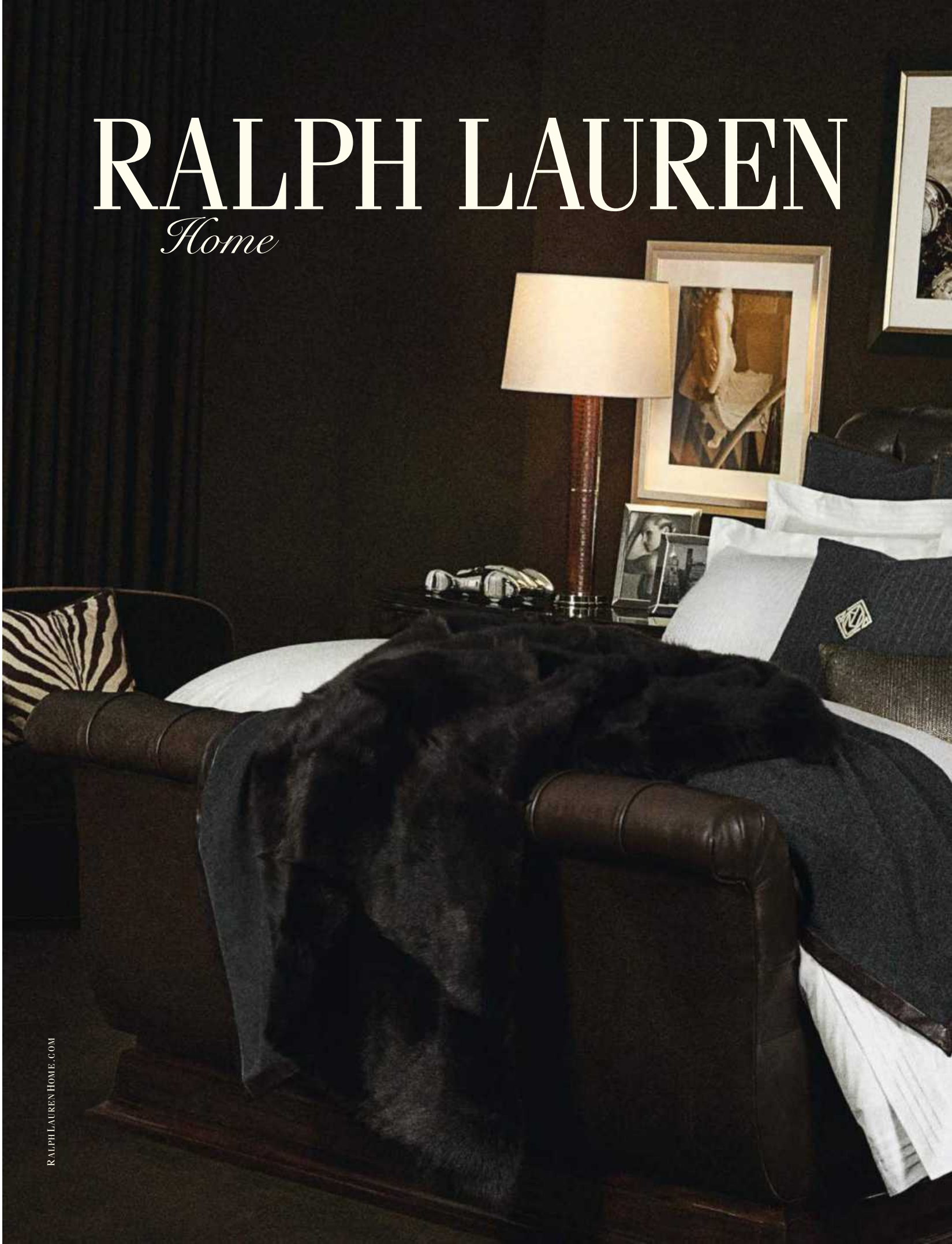
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p60

p125




p72

p202

CONTENTS *October 2015*


p192


p58

22 **Contributors**

46 **From the editor**

INSIDER

51 **Shopping** Viola Lanari creates eclectic displays for a table, shelf or mantelpiece

57 **Notebook** What's new in furniture, fabrics, wallpaper and home accessories

71 **News and views** What to see at London Design Festival; plus Paula Day, daughter of the designers Robin and Lucienne Day, explains how she is protecting their legacy

83 **Outside interests** Clare Foster considers planting camassias, and highlights garden accessories and events

88 **Out and about** Latest launches, chic showrooms, hot buys. By Carole Annett

96 **In Crowd** Reader events and offers

113 **Art scene** Celina Fox profiles Ai Weiwei; plus a focus on artists who study trees

118 **Books** Arne Maynard's gardens; the Nordic aesthetic; pizzazz and polish from Jeffrey Bilhuber; and waterside abodes

DECORATING

125 **Swatch** The decoration team introduces the new fabric collections

147 **Design ideas** Jessica Doyle explores the options for cupboard knobs and handles

164 **Rita notes** Advice on choosing carpet

167 **Profile** Judith Wilson talks to the architect Daniele Petteno about his reworking of a compact London flat

LIFESTYLE

175 **Legacy of love** The story of how the Scottish-born Amelie Drummond became the Duchesse de Magenta, chatelaine of Château de Sully in Burgundy. By Charlotte Fairbairn ▷

On the cover: The sitting room of a central London flat, decorated by designer Adam Bray (pages 206-211), photographed by Jake Curtis. **Cover stories are highlighted in colour**

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Contents continued



EDIT: INTERIORS, GARDENS, STORIES

186 **Spectacular isolation** An expansive newbuild farmhouse with breathtaking views of New Zealand's South Island. By Susan Crewe

194 **High drama** Jim Luigs has masterminded the decoration of a Manhattan apartment filled with art and creativity. By Lucie Young

200 **Where the heart is** When interior designer Harriet Anstruther took possession of her run-down Sussex farmhouse, she put her eclectic mark on it, while keeping its original features. By Daisy Bridgewater

206 **Texture and tone** Adam Bray has transformed this London flat with rich colour, luxurious fabrics and attention to detail. By Elfreda Pownall

212 **Open to ideas** The owners' love of Russian art and mid-century furniture helped design firm Waldo Works personalise the interior of this west London house. By Dominic Lutyens

218 **The knowledge** Inspired by the houses in this issue, Bonnie Robinson gives directions on how to achieve a similar style

220 **Creative connections** Three designers reveal the craftspeople who help them to realise their visions. By Jennifer Goulding

224 **The perfect fit** Set in 40 acres of rolling countryside, the gardens of Foxwood Farm in Wiltshire seamlessly complement their surroundings, thanks to expert planting and a clear design vision. By Jodie Jones

230 **Good enough to eat** Continuing her series on garden designers, Clare Foster visits the Suffolk home of Tom Hoblyn, which boasts a year-round harvest of trained fruit trees and vegetables

WINE & FOOD

234 **Taste notes** News, reviews and tips for cooks and wine lovers. By Joanna Simon

236 **Asian accents** Dishes inspired by Southeast Asian cuisine, using authentic pastes and flavourings. By Caroline Barty

241 **Simple suppers** Louisa Carter creates a 10-minute pasta dish and a fuss-free seasonal dessert

TRAVEL

243 **Where time stands still** Caroline Beck visits Australia's Kangaroo Island

244 **Welcome to the jungle** Sophie Campbell experiences boundless hospitality in Costa Rica – and encounters some rather scary creatures

247 **Designer haunts** A guide to Delhi, by Kevin Nigli of Abraham & Thakore

EVERY ISSUE

110 **Subscriptions** How to subscribe to *House & Garden* in the UK and US

270 **Stockists**

288 **Tastemaker** India Mahdavi's dos and don'ts of decorating □

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TOM MANNION
Photographer

Q How did your career start? 'My first client was the fashion designer Paul Smith. Since then, I've worked with lots of talented people and I still learn from them every time. I'm lucky to travel a lot; I seem to have become a professional tourist.'
Tom Mannion has photographed many of the interiors and fashion worlds' elite, including Christopher Bailey, Lulu Lytle, Tom Dixon and Terence Conran. When it comes to houses, he says, 'it's all about the light'. Indeed, he has captured in perfect light the characterful mid-century modern furniture and Constructivist artwork in the Notting Hill house of two Russian émigrés, featured from page 212.

DAISY BRIDGEWATER *Writer*



Q When did you know that you wanted to be a writer? 'I've always enjoyed the power of words. My father was a publisher and even as a child I hankered after seeing my own name in print. Add to that an intense nosiness and a fairly short attention span, and journalism was an easy fit.'
Sitting in Harriet Anstruther's Sussex farmhouse, listening to the creaks and moans of its oak beams, Daisy Bridgewater happily discussed owning an old house with the interior designer. 'It is simply adding another layer to its rich patina,' says Daisy. The writer and mother of three boys traded her own equally creaky Georgian vicarage in East Suffolk to inspect Harriet's rugged and relaxed house (from page 200).

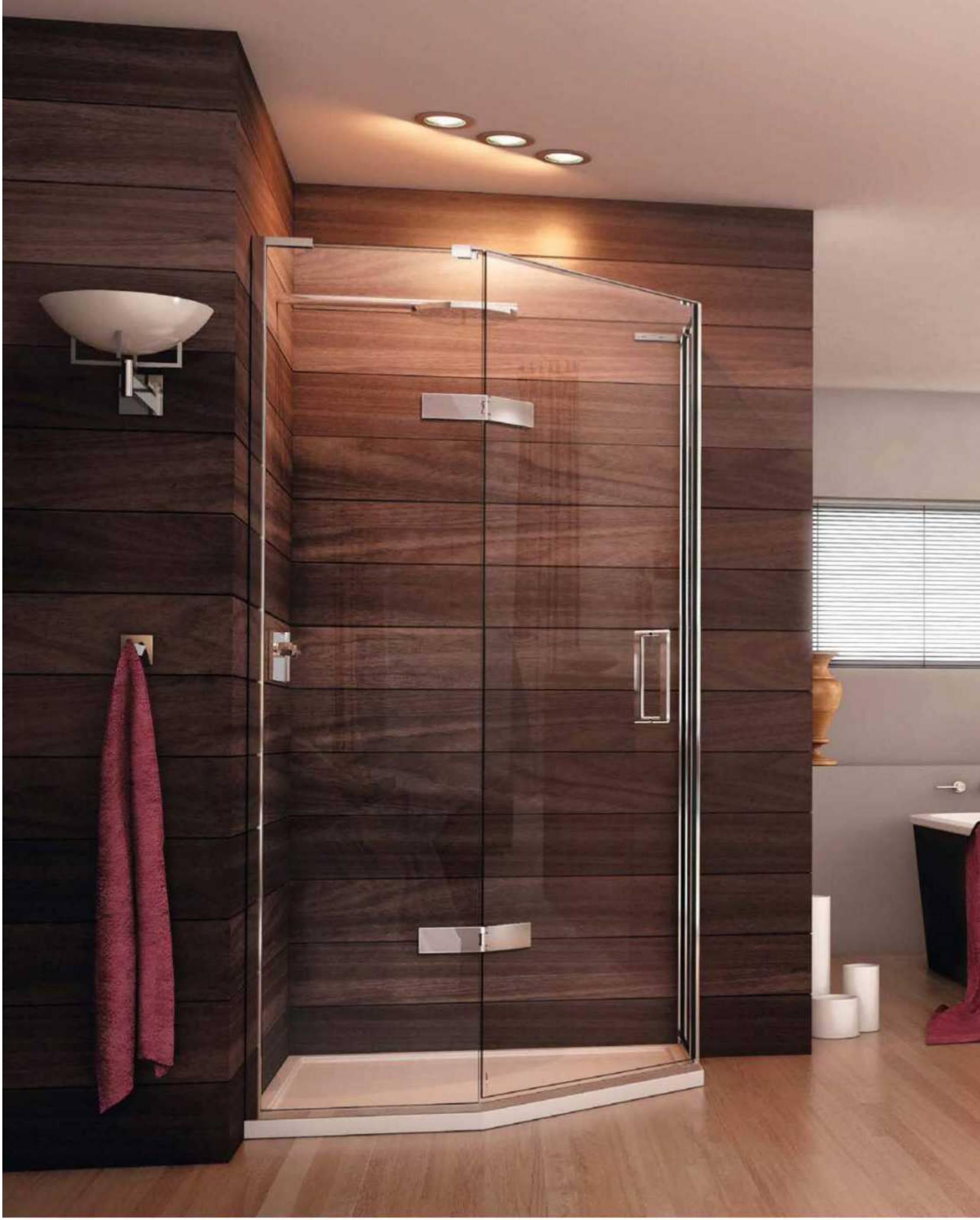


JIM LUIGS
Interior designer

Q What type of project do you most enjoy working on? 'I'm on the lookout for something I haven't done before. I love a blank page. More than anything I want a client with a spirit of adventure, who understands the creative process well enough to permit a failure or two. Because playing it safe is, finally, uninteresting.'
Interior designer Jim Luigs is not one to be constrained by a single style, let alone a single profession. In fact, the New York-based creative is also a playwright, lyricist and professor in the Department of Design for Stage and Film at New York University. Starting with just two of the owner's favourite quotations, it took all of Jim's talents to mastermind the interior of the Manhattan apartment featured from page 194. The result? Brass-leaf murals depicting Venetian Gothic architecture, mahogany walls and endless curiosities □

WORDS: ARTA GHANBARI


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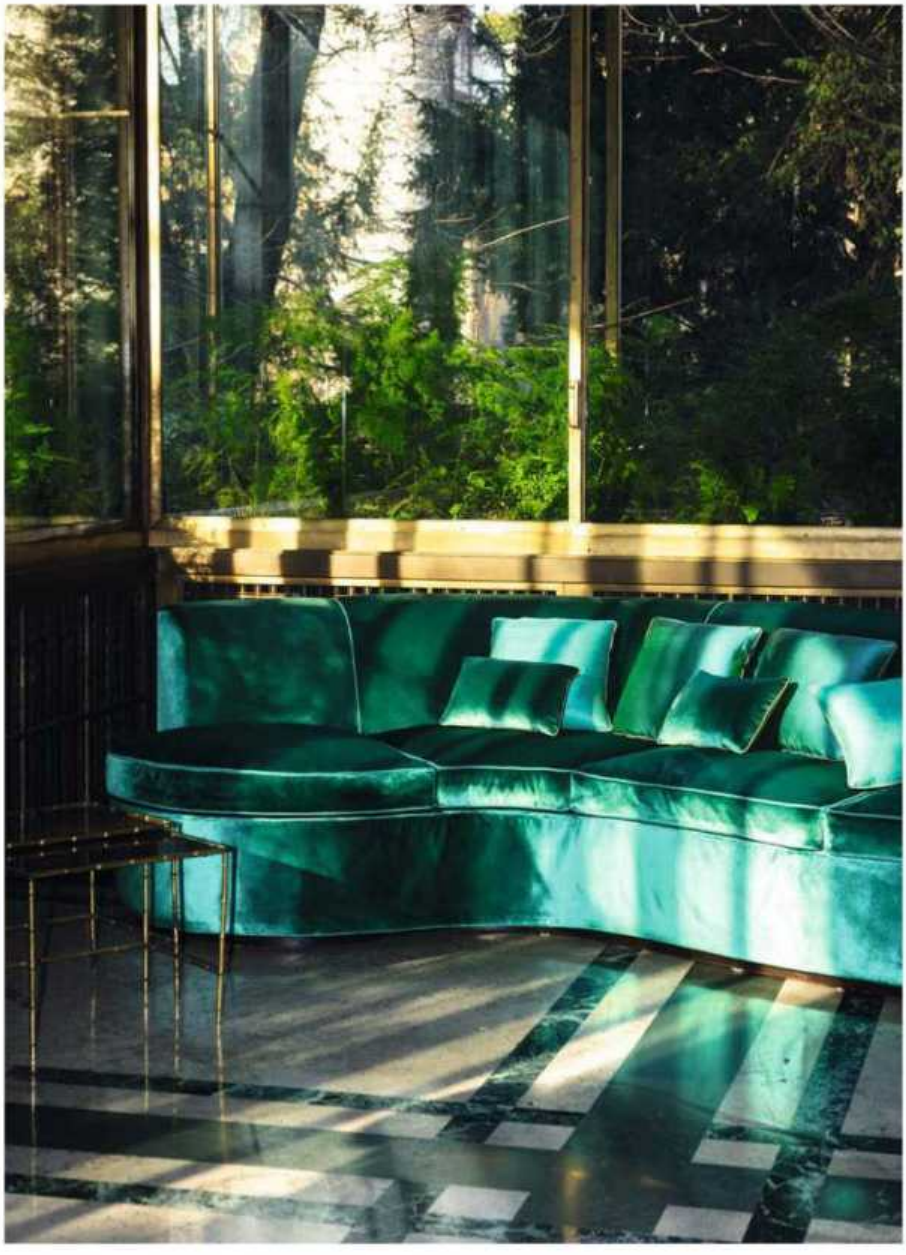
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EDITOR'S LETTER



House & Garden's October issue is always the biggest of the year, to coincide with London Design Festival and the launch of the new interiors collections of fabrics, wallpapers and furniture. It's an exciting month of shows, launches, parties and exhibitions for the interiors and design worlds, and for anybody doing up their house there is plenty to see and glean. Between pages 71 and 80, our features director David Nicholls and the *House & Garden* team pick out some of the highlights of the festival, which, in its thirteenth year, now comprises more than 350 exhibitions. And for those of you less willing to tramp the streets and aisles of the big design shows in search of the latest decorating ideas, within the pages that follow we have brought much of it to your sofa. Let our decoration team dazzle you with their showcase of the latest fabrics, set against the unlikely – but striking – backdrop of a Sixties block of flats on Spain's Costa Blanca (from page 125).

New is a central theme of this issue. I'm in awe of the vision behind a newly built house in an isolated part of New Zealand's South Island (from page 186). It was a feat to build a house there at all, let alone one as large and impressive as this one – not to mention the fact that it is decorated in perfect English country-house style, four-poster beds and all, by London-based decorator Colin Orchard. Susan Crewe, *House & Garden*'s former editor, had to cross the great Wilberforce River by tractor – it's not accessible by car – to see it for herself.

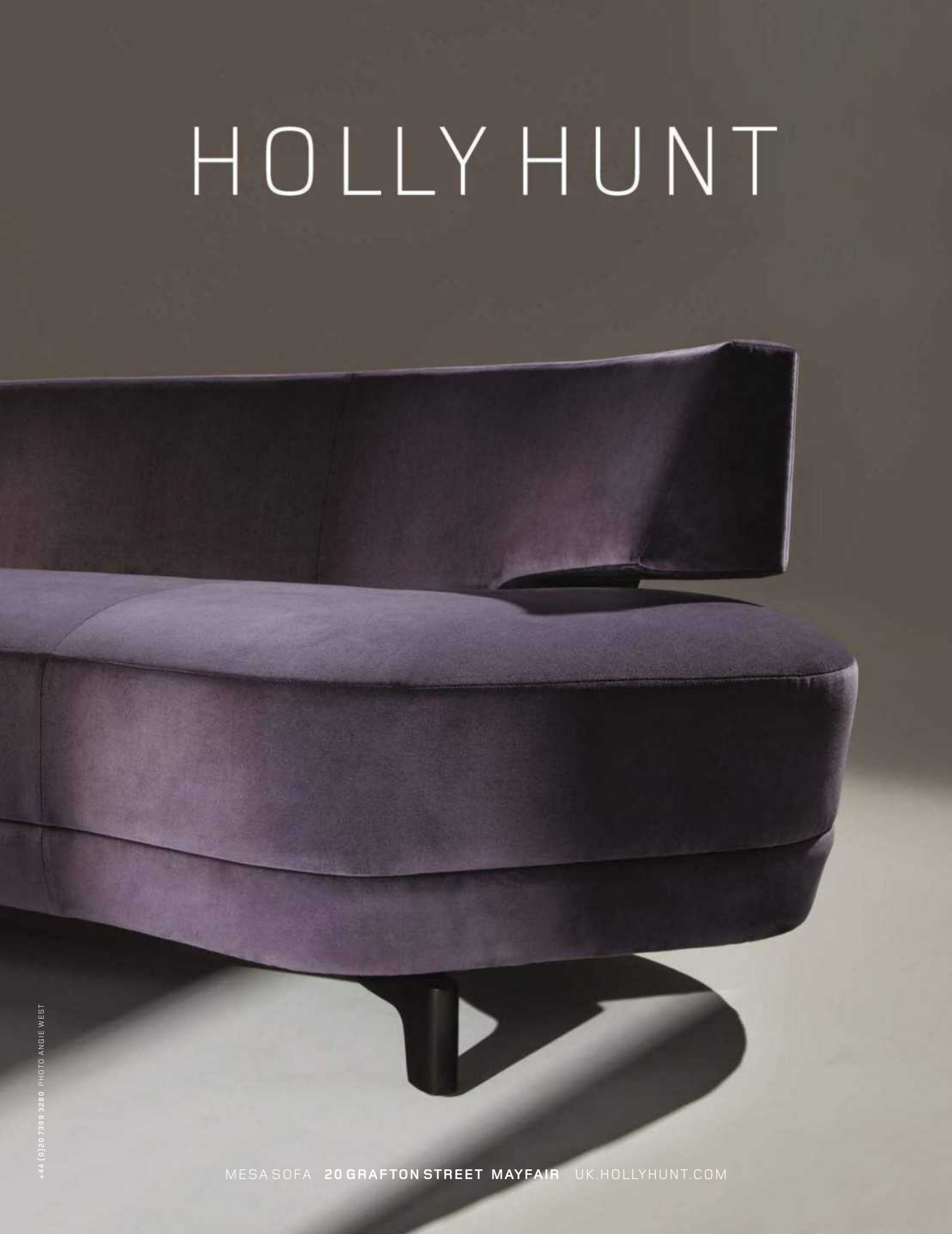
While on the subject of newness, I hope you like our new look. Our brilliant art director, Jenny Lister, has spent months deliberating over typefaces and fine-tuning the details. It's nerve-racking to redesign a magazine, and particularly one that has such a loyal readership, but I felt that it was time for the next step in *House & Garden*'s evolution. While still bringing you the best houses, gardens, decorating ideas and more, we like to think it looks fresh and smart, and reads with a new zing. I hope you agree □

Hatta Byng

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Fabric background: 'Wildflowers' (pink), by Kathryn M Ireland, linen, from Tissus d'Hélène

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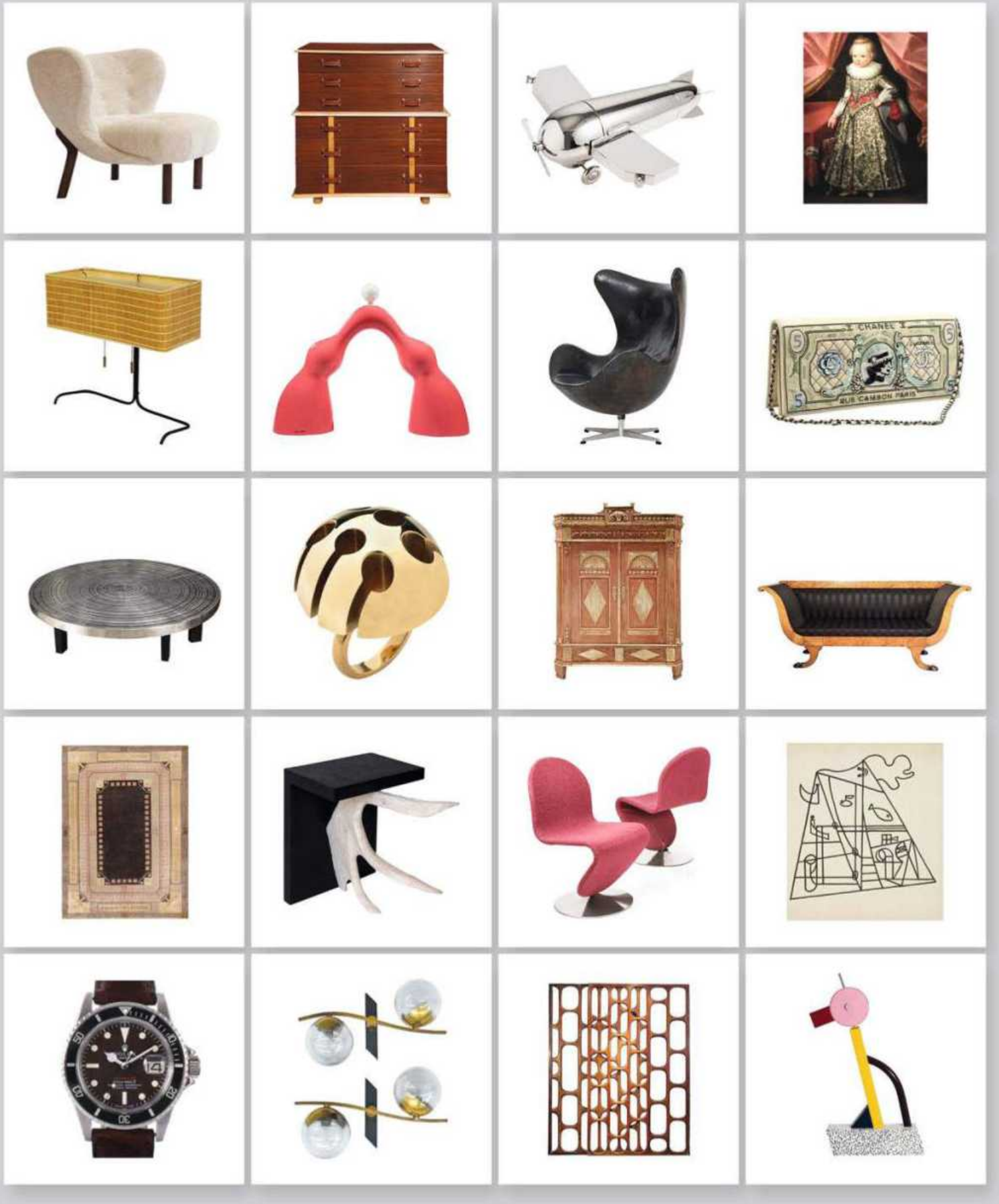
Set for the top

VIOLA LANARI creates eclectic displays using everday items and objets d'art that would bring interest to a table, shelf or mantelpiece

FROM LEFT **Foot plaster cast**, by Peter Hone, 19 x 33 x 19cm, £130, from Lassco. **Marble obelisk**, 59 x 20cm square, £1,600 for set of two (smaller size shown), from Talisman. Paper, wire and plaster **'Oxalis Plants'** (from left: burgundy and green), from £35 each, from Language of Flora. Porcelain **plate**, 'Fighting Dogs', by John Julian Design and Laura Carlin, 21cm diameter, £24, from The New Craftsmen. **Cardboard head**, 'Aphrodite', 39 x 40 x 25cm, £149, from RE. Stoneware **serving jug**, 'Hot' (cream), by Stuart Carey, 11 x 21cm diameter, £80, from The New Craftsmen. Maple **spinning tops**, £9.50 each, from Momosan Shop. Stacking **storage boxes**, 'Lens' (white, black and natural), by Thomas Jenkins, £49 each for marble and £68 for maple with glass lid, from Wrong For Hay. Glass, cast bronze and silver **wall light**, 'Caravaggio', 90 x 14 x 20cm, £1,837.50, from Cox London. Beech and teak **'Original Trestle Table'** (top shown upside down), 81 x 79.5 x 38cm, £2,900, from Howe ▷



FROM LEFT Rush '**Bull Bank**', 29 x 32 x 12cm, £125, from M Charpentier Antiques. '**Feather Pen**', by Hay, £8, from Liberty. **Postcard**, £15.50 for 10, from Pentreath & Hall. Glass **bowl**, 'Turo', by Ichiro Iwasaki, 6 x 21cm diameter, £30, from Hem. Ceramic **vase**, 'Raku', by Joachim Lambrecht, 30 x 19cm diameter, £1,150, from Willer. Oak **bowl**, 'Bog', by Eleanor Lakelin, 6 x 9cm diameter, £295, from The New Craftsmen. Glass **jar**, 'Chelsea' (straw), by Michael Ruh, 11 x 8.5cm diameter, £165, from The New Craftsmen. Glass and paper **platter**, 'Sun Bleached Sea Urchin', by John Derian, 40.5cm diameter, £275, from The Conran Shop. Maiolica '**Lilac Cat**', £135; and '**Baby Rabbits**', £30 each; all by Agalis Manessi, from The New Craftsmen. For a similar botanical print, try Arieta. Pine **table**, 'Demi Lune', 74 x 120 x 60cm, £850, from Puckhaber ▷



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FROM LEFT Glazed clay '**Mirror Sphere**' (black), 20.5 x 25cm diameter, £14.99, from Homebase.Nineteenth-century **bronze building façade,** 35.5 x 34 x 6cm, £460, from McWhirter Antiques. Hand-painted **papier mâché horses** (black, white and gold), approx. 19 x 12 x 3cm, £12.50 each, from Sarah Campbell Designs. Eighteenth-century **leather jug**, 62 x 30cm, £4,800, from Guinevere. Brass **mobile**, 'Water II', by Kanehen, 45 x 20cm, £165, from The Shop Floor Project. Fifties key-shape **corkscrew,** by Carl Auböck, £550, from Sigmar. Brass-footed **dessert plates**, by Seoyoon Kim, 4.5 x 21 x 7.5cm and 3.7 x 26 x 12cm, £315 each, from Willer. Glycerine **boulder soaps**, 12 x 20 x 30cm, about £100 each, from Droyt for Egg. Beech and teak '**Original Trestle Table**', 81 x 79.5 x 38cm, £2,900, from Howe. *For suppliers' details, see Stockists page* □



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Notebook

RUTH SLEIGHTHOLME shows us what's caught her eye this month

1 Cotton **napkin**, 'Fynbos Bird Crossing' (savannah), 45cm square, £35 for two, from Halsted Design. **2 Fabric**, 'Yamato' (yoru), by Zak + Fox, linen/cotton, £155 a metre, from George Spencer Designs. **3** Glazed terracotta **vases**, by Piet Hein Eek for Fair Forward: small, 20 x 24cm diameter, £69.95 each; and large, 34 x 24cm diameter, £99.95; from SCP. **4** Douglas fir **table**, 'Series 35', 74 x 240 x 90cm, £3,875; and **bench**, 45 x 200 x 40cm, £1,295; both by Alexander Gufler, from Aodh Furniture. **5** Silk **cushion**, 'Marlowe', 15 x 20cm, £570, from Ralph Lauren Home. **6** Hammered brass **candlestick**, 'Flower', by Malin Appelgren, 7 x 20cm diameter, £195, from The Shop Floor Project ▷







1 Limited-edition rolled-steel **ceiling light**, 'Atomic', by Atelier Van Lieshout, 60 x 180 x 115cm, from £20,000, from Carpenters Workshop Gallery. **2 Fabric**, 'Hazlewood' (mist), linen, £70 a metre, from Zoffany. **3** Walnut **utensils**, by Julian Watts, £50 for three, from The Cold Press. **4** Grasscloth **wallcovering**, 'Mrs Howell Natural' (palm), by Mary McDonald for Schumacher, 108cm wide, £524.40 for a 4-metre roll, from Turnell & Gigon. **5** Bespoke steel and glass **shelving unit**, 'RIG', by Mikal Harrsen and Adam Hall for MA/U Studio, 217 x 330 x 38cm, £3,461.64 as shown, from Viaduct. **6** Beech and velvet **sofa**, 'Uppark', 90 x 221 x 80cm, £6,836, from Max Rollitt. **7** Rattan **chair**, 'Bobbin', by Eva Fly, 76 x 70 x 60cm, £1,600, from KADK ▷





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1 Fabric, 'Anthos' (indigo), viscose/polyester, £72 a metre, from Sanderson. **2** Mouth-blown glass **pendant lights**, 'Polygon' (from left: dark smoke matt, amber matt, clear matt), by Jan Plecháč & Henry Wielgus for Lasvit, 30 x 22cm diameter, £1,410 each, from The Conran Shop. **3** Cotton gimp **braid**, 'Ceylon', 6cm wide, £89 a metre; cotton, wood and horsehair **rosettes**, 11cm diameter, £30 each, from Jessica Light. **4** Leather-topped tamo wood **desk**, 85 x 140 x 70cm, £20,520, from Armani Casa. **5** Hand-carved plywood **coffee table**, 'Pouf', by Caste, 43 x 195.5 x 43cm, £12,435, from Willer. **6 Fabric**, 'Fez Stripe' (green), linen, £150 a metre, from Soane. **7** Bent ash **chair**, 'Split' (turquoise), by Arik Levy, 78 x 47cm square, €474, from Ton ▷

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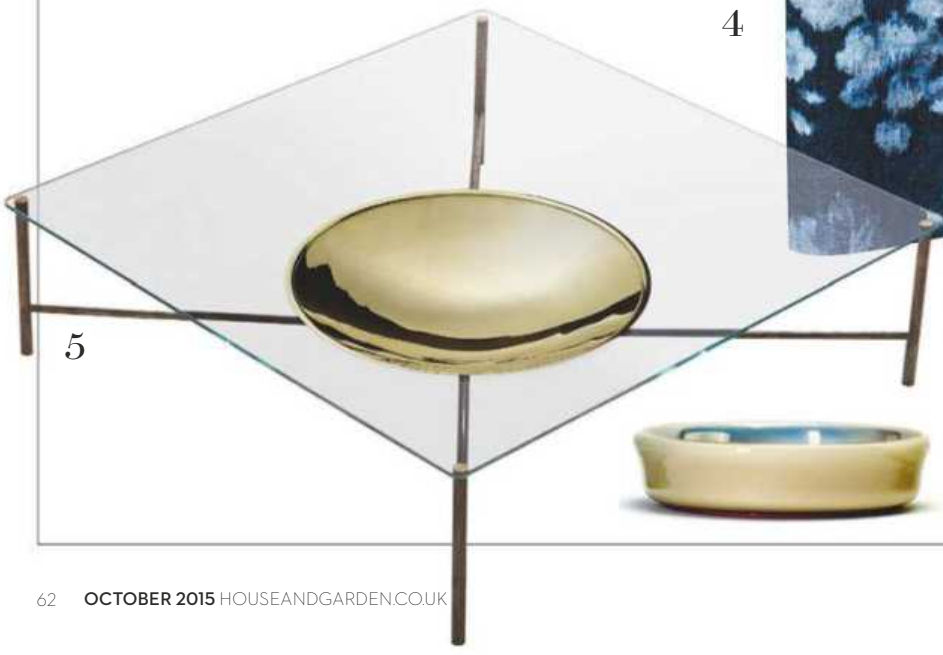


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1 Wool and hemp flatweave **rugs** (swatches shown) , 'Grand Sumac' (clockwise from top left: chartreuse & black, blue & cream, magenta & cream, fuchsia & black), £812 a square metre, from Vanderhurd. **2** Steel **lights**, 'Dokka' (from top: white, petrol blue, light grey, dark grey, aqua green), by Birger Dahl, 24.5 x 16.5cm diameter, €195 each, from Northern Lighting. **3** Brass and leather **armchair**, 'Licce', 65 x 68 x 66cm, £5,500, from The Conran Shop. **4** **Fabric**, 'Perosita' (indigo), by William Yeoward, linen mix, £79 a metre, from Designers Guild. **5** Brass and glass **coffee table**, 'Golden Moon', 35 x 100cm square, £1,595, from Gallotti & Radice. **6** Silvered and coloured glass **tableware**, 'Pastel', by Scholten & Baijings, from €360, from Verreum ▷

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1 Walnut **pendant light**, 'Abacus', 58 x 6cm diameter, £235; and mixed hardwoods **pendant light**, 'Aztec', 40 x 9cm diameter, £248; both by Marz Designs, from Goodhood. **2** Giclée **print** of a gilded and enamelled glass sign, 'Run', 25.5 x 48cm, £120 including frame, from Archie Proudfoot. **3 Wallpaper**, 'Luxor' (chartreuse/yellow), 52cm wide, £80 for a 10-metre roll, from Cole & Son. **4** Carved walnut **bench**, 'RU-ST007', 40 x 138 x 41cm, $1,130, from Rüsaska. **5** Cotton **cushion**, 'Doodle', 45cm square, £15, from Habitat. **6** Pine and Shetland wool **chair**, 'Casta', by Claire-Anne O'Brien for Happen Projects, 90 x 45 x 40cm, £3,800, from Mint. **7** Stoneware **mug**, 'Magda', 9.5 x 11.5cm diameter, £8, from Habitat. *For suppliers' details, see Stockists page* □

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THIS PAGE 'Backgammon' table, by Oomph from Nina Campbell. 'Borromini' sofa, from Fendi Casa. Cushions on sofa from top: 'Balibar', 'Soria' and 'Argan', by Elitis from Abbott & Boyd. 'Fante' table, from Gallotti&Radice. Triangle covered in 'Carioca Key' (neptune), from Beacon Hill and 'Nuimi' velvet, from Black Edition by Romo. OPPOSITE 'Bolle Tavolo 3' table light, from Gallotti&Radice. 'Nesting Tables', from Decca (Bolier). 'Juliette' coffee table, from Decorus. Circle covered in 'B115-07', silk, by Bruno Triplet from Sahco

DESTINATION DESIGN

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Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour is the go-to destination for all things design. This month it kicks off the new season with Focus/15, taking place from September 20–24 with a trade-only preview and a public day on September 25

Acknowledged as a design mecca, Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour is leading the way in inspiration and design direction. Just a stone's throw from the King's Road, it casts an impressive silhouette with its spectacular glass domes home to an unrivalled line-up of 105 showrooms and over 500 international brands. Here you can find a treasure trove of gems from some of the biggest names shaping today's luxury interior industry. All are devoted to the creation of impeccable products of beauty, style and imagination. There's no better place to discover a raft of superb materials, craftsmanship and artistry all at one address. Whether you're looking to revamp a country house, find finishing touches for a city apartment or design solutions for a hotel or yacht, Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour offers an impressive mix of design diversity and specialist knowledge on site.

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Encouraging visitors to access the vast resources, materials, colours and finishes on offer in the showrooms is at the heart of Design Centre's ethos. Save time and angst by booking in with the Personal Shopping Service. Get the low-down on where to track down your personal preferences and be guided stress-free through the domes and more ateliers in Design Centre East. *Consultations are free of charge. To book call 020-7352 1900 or email personalshopping@dcch.co.uk*





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Inside Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour. 'Cimarosa' side table with drawer, from Armani/Casa; with enlarged background fabric, 'Baza', by Jonathan Adler, from Kravet. 'Berkeley' standing lamp, from Nicholas Haslam; 'Menton' screen, from Christopher Guy; leather embossed rug from Alton-Brooke; and 'Haskel' occasional chair, from Fox Linton. Colour and fabric inspiration

THE FOCUS/15 A-LIST

ABBOTT & BOYD **ALTFIELD** ALTON-BROOKE **ANN SACKS** ARMANI/CASA **AZUCENA AT GMR** BAKER LIFESTYLE **BAKER** BEACON HILL **BELLA FIGURA** BESSELINK & JONES **BLENHEIM CARPETS** BRIAN YATES **BRUNSCHWIG & FILS** C & C MILANO **CASSINA** CHAPLINS **CHASE ERWIN** CHRISTOPHER GUY **CHRISTOPHER HYDE LIGHTING** CHRISTOPHER PEACOCK **CLIVE CHRISTIAN** COLE & SON **COLEFAX AND FOWLER** COLONY **CREATION BAUMANN** CRESTRON **DAVID SEYFRIED LTD** DAVIDSON **DECCA (BOLIER)** DECORUS **DEDAR** EDELMAN LEATHER **EVITAVONNI** FENDI CASA **FLEXFORM** FOX LINTON **FROMENTAL** GALLOTTI&RADICE **GLADEE** GP & J BAKER **HARLEQUIN** HENRY BERTRAND **INTERDESIGN** INTERIOR SUPPLY **J. ROBERT SCOTT** JACARANDA CARPETS **JASON D'SOUZA** JEAN MONRO **KRAVET** LEE JOFA **LELIEVRE** LEWIS & WOOD **LIZZO** MARVIC TEXTILES **MCKINNON AND HARRIS** MULBERRY HOME **NADA DESIGNS** THE NANZ COMPANY **NICHOLAS HASLAM LTD** NINA CAMPBELL **NOBILIS** ORIGINAL BTC **PIERRE FREY** POLIFORM **POLTRONA FRAU** PORADA **PORTA ROMANA** RAMM, SON & CROCKER **REMAINS LIGHTING** R.I.M TILE BOUTIQUE **ROBERT ALLEN** ROMO **RUBELLI/DONGHIA** SA BAXTER ARCHITECTURAL HARDWARE **SAHCO** SAMUEL HEATH **SAMUEL & SONS PASSEMENTERIE** SANDERSON **THE SILK GALLERY** SIMPSONS MIRRORS & FURNITURE **STARK CARPET** STARK FABRIC **STUDIOTEX** SUMMIT FURNITURE **SWD** TAI PING CARPETS **THREADS AT GP & J BAKER** TIM PAGE CARPETS **TISSUS D'HELENE** TOP FLOOR BY ESTI. RUGS & WOOD **TUFENKIAN ARTISAN CARPETS** TURNELL & GIGON **TURNELL & GIGON AT HOME** TURNSTYLE DESIGNS **VAUGHAN** VIA ARKADIA (TILES) **VICTORIA +ALBERT BATHS** WATTS OF WESTMINSTER **WEMYSS** WHISTLER LEATHER **WIRED CUSTOM LIGHTING** WOOL CLASSICS **ZIMMER + ROHDE** ZOFFANY **PLUS DESIGNERS GUILD, OSBORNE & LITTLE & WILLIAM YEOWARD IN CHELSEA**

PHOTOGRAPHS: BEN QUINTON

For more details on Focus/15 at Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, please call 020-7225 9166 or visit dcch.co.uk. Opening hours: 10am-6pm
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news and views

Edited by DAVID NICHOLLS



'Brew' is Tom Dixon's new copper coffee set, which includes a caddy, scoop, cafetière, stove-top pot, milk pan, espresso cups, biscuit tin and serving tray. It will launch at Harrods' *Timeless Design* exhibition, with pieces costing from £35

FOR MORE HIGHLIGHTS OF LDF, VISIT HOUSEANDGARDEN.CO.UK/LDF

DESIGN SERVED HOT

This month, the capital plays host to the LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL, a nine-day celebration of ideas, innovation and brilliant interiors. Here is *House & Garden*'s round up of what to look out for

Now in its thirteenth year, the London Design Festival (LDF) has grown to include more than 350 exhibitions and installations, which take place across the city. One thing's for sure: you'll need comfortable shoes.

The following pages feature a round-up of what we think are going to be this year's real highlights. As we were putting together this shortlist, one thing that became evident was the impressive 'something for everyone' nature of LDF – a quality that sets it apart from its international counterparts.

Decorators will flock to Syon Park in west London for **Decorex** (September 20–23), where over 400 brands will unveil their latest collections, showcasing textiles, furniture and much more. Emerging talent from all round the world can be discovered at **Tent London** (September 24–27) and the **Shoreditch Design Triangle** (September 19–27) in the East End, an area with a high concentration of hip happenings.

For those of a more cultural bent, the installations by designers and artists at the **V&A** (September 13–21) provide a chance to revel in examples of untethered creativity. The **Bankside Design District** is a new hub of activity. Making the most of the location alongside the Thames, there will be a series of walking tours, exhibitions and outdoor installations stretching from Borough Market to the Oxo Tower. Meanwhile, with two new venues, **DesignJunction** (September 24–27) remains the biggest multi-exhibitor showcase in the city centre and a key destination for modern design. This is simply a carefully edited tip of the iceberg, of course; you'll find details of plenty of other events on the LDF website. And for those who aren't planning to be in London during the festival, we have also highlighted some intriguing events that will be taking place round the country.

The London Design Festival is on September 19–27. Information about the events listed can be found at londondesignfestival.com, unless otherwise stated



GIVING SOMETHING BACK

Once again, DesignJunction has teamed up with the charity Teddy's Wish as part of the A Child's Dream fundraising project. They have partnered with Vitra, which produces the iconic Eames 'Elephant' toy, and have asked 20 designers to each customise one to be auctioned. The one pictured here is by Industrial Facility. The elephants will be shown at DesignJunction and at thedesignjunction.co.uk/charity, and bidding closes on October 4 ▷

HIGH-STREET HOMAGE

This year, the always alluring designer installations at the V&A include a six-metre-high ceramic piece, *The Tower of Babel*, part of which is pictured below. It comprises a stack of 3,000 bone china buildings measuring from 10cm to 13cm tall, and is by the artist Barnaby Barford. His photographs of shopfronts were applied to the structures in a statement on 'fulfillment through consumerism'. No irony then that each 'shop' is for sale, with prices starting at £90. September 8–November 1. *vam.ac.uk*





CRAFT

Name to know

SIMONE TEN HOMPEL



Considering metalworker Simone Ten Hompel started out as a locksmith, it is perhaps no surprise that her works are concerned with functionality. But to evaluate them purely as functional objects would be to miss the point. 'I use metal to question things,' she says. 'Some of my pieces are functional; others are only about the question.' The beauty of Simone's work is in the way it subverts expectations: a teapot without a handle, or a spoon with a bowl so flat you couldn't use it to eat. Of the flat dishes she has made for *Future Heritage* at Decorex this year, she says, 'They work on the table or on the wall, but that is not for me to decide.' The installation's curator, Corinne Julius, says, 'She makes you look again at materials and objects you take for granted. It's not about luxury: it's about thought.' *decorex.com*



While you are in east London, head to the Geffrye Museum for Ceramics in the City, its annual ceramics selling fair. We're particularly taken by Julia Smith's Black Pots collection, a piece of which is pictured above. Her pieces will be for sale, costing from £45. September 25–27. geffrye-museum.org.uk

Focusing on the narrative aspect of craft, and inspired by Japanese art, Nazanin Kamali's textiles are modern and macabre. Her pieces – including this *Brain* print, which can be commissioned – will be exhibited at Case Furniture in Wandsworth. September 19–27 (excluding Sundays). *casefurniture.co.uk*



TAKING TURNS

Its handsome design in oak and leather may give it a contemporary feel, but Gareth Neal's 'Slung Chair' was inspired by bodging, a traditional wood-turning technique using unseasoned wood. It won the Great Heal's Bodging Race in February, when six designers competed to make a chair using offcuts from the Ercol and Sitting Firm workshops. A commercial piece (£895) based on this prototype launches at Heal's during LDF. *heals.co.uk*





CRAFTY CORNERS

Online craft marketplace Etsy is known for providing a selling platform for independent makers and introducing consumers to work they might not have otherwise found. It is bringing that spirit to Tent London's *Etsy Four Corners of Craft*, an exhibition of work by UK-based makers selected by open call, including Juli Bolaños-Durman, whose vessels are pictured above. *etsy.com* ▷

SHANNON TOFTS; BARNABY BARFORD



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www.davidsonlondon.com

DESIGN CENTRE - CHELSEA HARBOUR

ALL AROUND THE WORLD

A taster of some of the nations whose creative output is represented during LDF



AUSTRALIA The porcelain company Mud Australia presents *100% Handmade*, an in-store installation exploring its artisan processes. September 19–27. *mudaustralia.com*



SWITCHERLAND Cutting-edge design shop Mint presents *Twisting Tradition*, where 60 designers, including Swiss Pour Les Alpes, will introduce new work. September 19–27. *mintshop.co.uk*



NORWAY Northern Lighting will launch its new 'Say My Name' lights at DesignJunction. And, once again, *100% Norway* will be a feature exhibit of Tent London. *northernlighting.no*



JAPAN One of the *10 Designers in the West Wing* at Somerset House is the unfathomably prolific Nendo, which will be showing off some of its new designs. September 19–27. *nendo.jp/en*



GREAT BRITAIN SCP marks its twentieth anniversary with *Sofa in Sight*, an exhibition and collection of upholstery designs by leading names including Matt Hilton. September 19–27. *scp.co.uk*



IRELAND Rug specialist Ceadogán is taking part in *Ó*, an exhibition of Irish makers at Tent London supported by the Crafts Council of Ireland. *ceadogan.ie*



ITALY The furniture company Poltrona Frau is opening its first UK showroom, while Fornasetti unveils archive re-editions at Harrods. *poltronafrau.com* | *harrods.com*



MEXICO Mexican silver specialist Tane has worked with Bodo Sperlein on a new tableware range, to be unveiled at Mallett's group exhibition *Design House*. September 21–26. *mallettantiques.com*



SLOVENIA Nika Zupanc is a London-based Slovenian designer whose designs for Sé will be shown in the exhibition space at the restaurant Sketch. September 19–27. *se-london.com*

TEXTILE ART







The doodles of the New York-based artist **Jon Burgerman** have made their way onto a range of fabrics by Kirkby Design, launching at DesignJunction in association with Ligne Roset. The names for the fabrics in the collection sound as if they have been plucked from a Roald Dahl story, and include 'Wobblepotamus' and 'Fruity Tooty'; £55 a metre. *kirkbydesign.com*

Looking a little further back in time is **Christopher Farr Cloth**'s collection of Raoul Dufy textiles, which will be launched in its showroom during LDF. Dufy was best known for his brightly coloured scenes, but in 1912 was asked by French silk factory Bianchini-Férier to produce textile patterns, some of which Christopher Farr Cloth has reproduced; from £100 a metre. *christopherfarrcloth.com* ▷

BAS BERKHOUT



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THE ROMO GROUP

Known internationally for his elegant and spare interiors, French designer CHRISTIAN LIAIGRE is celebrating the opening of a new London showroom. Here he reveals his top design tips







FIRST PERSON

TOP LEFT Christian Liaigre. THIS PICTURE AND ABOVE Christian's designs displayed in his new showroom

"Our surroundings should function like a work of art, appealing to our emotions and swathing us in security as we cross the threshold.

•

A creative decorator must rise above his private tastes and adapt, so that people will say, "My, how good we feel to be here."

•

Our projects allow art pieces to stand out. I buy different styles of art – from antique to modern, or craft. It has to be love at first sight.

•

My style has evolved. When I started in 1985, I was alone, but now I have two more people: Deborah, my wife, and Frauke Meyer, the head of our design studio. Working with women has changed my perspective. Before, my work was very masculine, but they have introduced a softness.

•

The interiors we design are different according to each client, country or architect. It's important to be a chameleon, but to keep your personality.

•

I visited the Milan Furniture Fair a few times, but I came away feeling depressed by the profusion of new designs. We introduce a maximum of 10 new pieces a year. It's enough.

•

My best advice for young designers is to be themselves. Otherwise it is a waste of their time. India Mahdavi (the subject of this month's 'Tastemaker') worked with us at the beginning of her career, and she has developed her style and been very successful.

•

I like a chic, neutral style to give a sense of calm and ambiance. I couldn't do bright colours and lots of patterns: it would seem too aggressive.

52–53 Conduit Street, W1; christian-liaigre.fr"

What's trending? #LDF15

It's the official hashtag of the London Design Festival, where you can keep track of what's happening, as it happens. Send us your highlights on twitter at @_houseandgarden using #LDF15



PETER LINDBERGH; JOSHUA MONAGHAN

CREATIVE CABINETRY

This kimono-shape cabinet, which features images of Japanese bombers dodging anti-artillery fire, is an example of the incredible marquetry skills, creativity and wit of the American furniture maker-cum-sculptor John Cederquist. It's from his Heavenly Victory series (2008) and can be seen up close on Holly Johnson Antiques' stand at the Lapada Art & Antiques Fair. It has been valued at £26,000. This year's fair includes over 100 dealers who will be showcasing their covetable collections of furniture, interior objects and jewellery. *Berkeley Square, W1 (lapadalondon.com), September 22–27; admission, £20* ▷



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SNEAK PEEK

For the nosy among us, Open House is a joy. Once a year, more than 800 buildings across the capital open their doors to offer the public a rare view inside. Some of the real gems are the private homes that take part, including Pear Tree House in Dulwich, pictured above. The work of architects Edgley Design, the concept began with a 100-year-old pear tree – a remnant of the site's history as a Victorian fruit orchard. September 19–20. *openhouselondon.org.uk*



AUTUMN DESIGNS

Head for Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour on Friday, September 25 for the public day of Focus/15, where 102 showrooms will present their autumn collections, covering textiles, furniture, lighting, kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms. It's also a brilliant place to pick up decorating ideas and advice, with a line-up of workshops, talks and forums. *dcch.co.uk*

BRIGHTON ART FAIR

Painters, printmakers, photographers and sculptors gather to show and sell their latest works at the Brighton Dome in the city's cultural quarter. Highlights include Julie Ball's hand-printed porcelain and wood collage series Dejavu, which shows images of buildings and people living in Penrith during the First World War, and Frances Doherty's plant-inspired ceramics – her wall-art piece *Rununculus* is pictured below. *Brighton Dome Corn Exchange, Church Street, Brighton (brightonartfair.co.uk), September 24–27; admission, £6.50*





W IS FOR WALLPAPER

Nothing makes a statement in an interior like a bold wallpaper, and the Ruthin Craft Centre in North Wales takes it to the next level with its *W is for Wallpaper* exhibition. It features the work of 20 makers from across the UK, including Daniel Heath's redesign of his 'Onyx Skyline' wallpaper (pictured above) – silk-printed in his Walthamstow studio – and Timorous Beasties' no-repeat ikat design 'Omni Splatt'. To see many more wallpaper designs, visit houseandgarden.com/ruthin. *Park Road, Ruthin (ruthincraftcentre.org.uk), September 26–November 22; admission, free*



CREATIVE INSIGHT

An exhibition at Roca London Gallery reveals how childhood experiences influenced architects and designers. For 'Childhood ReCollections: Memories in Design', writer and curator Clare Farrow asked the likes of Daniel Libeskind and Zaha Hadid, pictured above, about their recollections of childhood and conceived a 'cabinet of curiosities' based on their answers. September 17–January 23 2016. rocalondongallery.com ▷

CONTRIBUTORS: EMILY TOBIN; ARTA GHANBARI; JESSICA DOYLE. PHOTOGRAPHS: GIOVANNA SILVA; EDGLEY DESIGN/NICK WORLEY


PORTA ROMANA
ELEMENTAL
PORTAROMANA.CO.UK



FAMILY VALUES

PAULA DAY, daughter of the late designers Robin and Lucienne Day, on her efforts to protect their legacy

PHOTOGRAPHS **MICHAEL SINCLAIR**

Of course, I grew up knowing my parents were famous designers. They had both come to prominence at the Festival of Britain in 1951, a few years before I was born. My father's elegant and innovative furniture designs include the ground-breaking 'Polypropylene Chair' – probably the best-selling chair of all time. My mother's striking textile designs from 'Calyx' onwards have prompted comparisons with William Morris.

But, to me, they were my mum and dad. Design was their work, but I remember them as private people who were happiest at their weekend cottage in the woods of West Sussex. My father would marvel at the structure of trees, quoting Leonardo da Vinci: 'Nature is the finest, most perfect designer.' He loved being physically active outdoors, walking or climbing or travelling great distances on Nordic skis. Trips with him inspired my own love for wild landscape, and in my twenties I moved to Cumbria, converted a barn on a wooded hillside, and for many years ran pioneering mountain walking holidays for women.

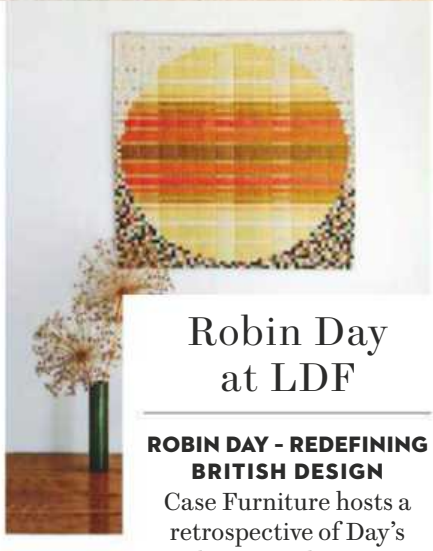
Gardening was my mother's great delight. From her I learned about plants, creating my own garden out of the pasture round my house, and eventually designing gardens for other people. My background is literary and most of my writing is about the natural world; my recent book *Tree* is dedicated to my parents and includes poems about the things I inherited from them – the fig trees my mother grew, my father's woodcutting tools.

In the last years of my parents' lives, I became increasingly involved with their care. Anyone who has aged parents will understand the poignant protectiveness I felt as these two exceptionally strong people became more vulnerable. Yet, surprising though this seems in retrospect, I never expected to have any responsibility for their design legacies.

But, soon after they died in 2010, the vultures descended, to scavenge their designs and even their names. I realised that I simply was not prepared to allow my parents' work to be misused. If their names are used to sell things that they did not design, the public is being misled about part of the nation's artistic heritage. So in 2012, with the help of my co-trustees, I set up a design education charity, the Robin and Lucienne Day Foundation. Our objectives are to further public knowledge of and access to their design legacies, and to provide resources for the study of design. We donated my father's technical drawings to the V&A and the remaining contents of his studio to the Design Museum to display on its new site. The Foundation works with and licenses responsible companies to develop high-quality productions of their designs, and we're celebrating the centenary of my father's birth this year with events during London Design Festival. We'll mark my mother's centenary in 2017.

Through this process, I've come to better understand and appreciate my parents' work. So that was what they were doing when they disappeared into the studio when I was a child. *robinandluciennedayfoundation.org* □

FROM TOP Paula Day at her home in Cumbria, which houses several of her parents' designs, including this table and chairs by Robin Day. *Midnight Sun*, silk mosaic, Lucienne Day, 1980s. A photograph of Paula as a baby with her parents





Robin Day at LDF

ROBIN DAY – REDEFINING BRITISH DESIGN Case Furniture hosts a retrospective of Day's work. September 19–27.

ROBIN DAY: WORKS IN WOOD A V&A exhibition exploring his often overlooked passion for wood. September 19–27.

CELEBRATING ROBIN DAY A ticketed symposium at the V&A exploring his career, with speakers including curators, historians and Paula Day. September 25.

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These rustic plant markers are made from coppiced hazel and can be reused year after year by shaving off the inscribed area at the top of each label. Approximately 26cm long, and costing £18 for five, they are ideal for a country garden. *rowenandwren.com*

Outside Interests

CLARE FOSTER finds fresh gardening inspiration

GO AND SEE

The **Oudolf Field at Hauser & Wirth Somerset** is an inspiration to anyone seeking ideas for late-season planting. Grasses and perennials combine in typical Oudolf style to echo the curves of the landscape, with masses of colour and texture to bridge the gap between summer and autumn. *hauserwirthsomerset.com*



HEATHER EDWARDS



This simple **wire basket** from Crocus is based on a Twenties Swedish design. Ideal for gathering a harvest of fruit or vegetables, it is made from galvanised steel that is both lightweight and hard-wearing. Measuring 28 x 38cm diameter, it costs £89.99 plus p&p. *crocus.co.uk* ▷





FROM LEFT *Camassia leichtlinii* subsp. *suksdorfii caerulea*. *Camassia leichtlinii* 'Alba'

TIME TO PLANT CAMASSIAS

Very much in the picture at the moment are camassia bulbs and, like those of tulips or daffodils, they should be planted now in early autumn to flower next spring. With willowy spires of pale blue or white flowers, these North American plants look statuesque and striking either planted en masse in a meadow setting, or dotted in threes or fives in a border. My first introduction to this plant was at Great Dixter in East Sussex, where ***Camassia esculenta*** (also known as *C. quamash*) has naturalised in the long meadow grass on either side of the front path.

SPECIES AND CULTIVARS

At 40cm tall, ***C. esculenta*** is the shortest form grown in the UK, and ideally suited to naturalising in grass. With deep blue, starry flowers in May and June, it provides the perfect pairing to meadow buttercups and cowslips. At 60cm, ***C. cusickii*** is taller, with elegant flower spikes that emerge pale green and open to a light, wisteria blue, ideal for a border with honesty or forget-me-nots. ***C. leichtlinii*** is the tallest of all, flowering slightly later than *C. cusickii*, and has flowers in both blue and white. The best-known white camassia is ***C. leichtlinii* 'Alba'** (90cm), which has creamy white flowers that form a loose pyramid. This is best grown in a border against a dark background to show off the pale flowers. The other form to look out for in this group has the long name of ***C. leichtlinii* subsp. *suksdorfii caerulea***, with deep lavender-blue flowers that make wonderful accents in a herbaceous border.

HOW TO GROW

In the wild, camassias grow in full sun or partial shade in moisture-rich mountain meadows, needing plenty of moisture in spring, followed ideally by a period of dry dormancy in the summer. If they are happy where they are, they will produce seed and naturalise. The bulbs should be planted 10cm deep in September or October, or before the first frosts. After flowering, don't cut them back too soon unless you don't want them to produce seed.

WHERE TO SEE AND BUY

You can see meadow camassias at Great Dixter in East Sussex (greatdixter.co.uk) and Rosemoor in Devon (rhs.org.uk). Buy bulbs from Avon Bulbs (avonbulbs.co.uk).

The Gardener's Diary



DAHLIA FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 6 AND 27

Head to Kelmarsh Hall in Northamptonshire to see dozens of dahlia varieties in the walled garden, with talks, flower arranging and plant sales; 11am–5pm, tickets cost £8. *kelmarsh.com*



WISLEY FLOWER SHOW

SEPTEMBER 8–13

More than 60 nursery and trade exhibitors will be at Wisley, which includes the National Dahlia Society Annual Show; 10am–5pm, tickets cost £12 (entry free for RHS members). *rhs.org.uk*



KITCHEN GARDEN OPEN DAY

SEPTEMBER 13

Chiswick House opens its kitchen garden to the public, with gardening advice as well as plant and produce sales; 11am–3pm, entry is free. *chgt.org.uk* ▷

MARIANNE MAJERUS


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BAG IT UP

Keep tools close with this useful **pouch** from Niwaki. Made from canvas with a vinyl trim, it has multiple pockets and can be worn across the body or clipped to a belt. Available in two sizes, the small, pictured, measures 18 x 14cm and costs £25 and the large measures 20 x 25.5cm and costs £30. *niwaki.com*



TAKE A LEAF OUT OF THIS



Garden photographers get an inside view of wonderful gardens all over the world. **Garden Design: A Book of Ideas** (Mitchell Beazley, £30) features photographs by regular *House & Garden* contributor Marianne Majerus and is a fantastic visual sourcebook. With a text written by garden designer Heidi Howcroft, the book is logically organised into sections on hard landscaping elements and planting, with case studies on a wide cross section of gardens from classical to contemporary. *octopusbooks.co.uk*



Every gardener needs string-in-a-tin, and this one by Wild & Wolf at Bloomsbury Store will brighten up the greenhouse shelf. The vibrant yellow tin is decorated with a mid-century V&A kite print and contains 475 feet of natural twine. It costs £9.95 plus p&p. *bloomsburystore.com* □



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OUT AND ABOUT

Latest launches… chic showrooms… hot buys… CAROLE ANNETT takes note



RABBITING ON

Learning that he was born in the Chinese year of the rabbit inspired American painter Hunt Slonem to create these paintings, which are in his New York studio. You can recreate the look with his 'Hutch' wallpaper, part of his collection with Lee Jofa, from **G P & J Baker**. Sold as a double roll, it costs £250 for 9 metres. *01202-266700; gpandjbaker.com*





SLEEK SHEETS

Yves Delorme, currently celebrating 170 years in the business, has launched this 'Prisme' bedlinen, a subtle geometric pattern in damask sateen, which has a thread count of 300 per square inch. The delicate pink hue will add a sense of tranquillity to any bedroom. Prices start at *£49.95* for a boudoir pillowcase. *020-7730 3435; yvesdelormeparis.com*

The Fritz Hansen collection at **Heal's** includes this 'Kaiser Idell' pendant, adapted from a design by German silversmith Christian Dell. It measures 14 x 28.5cm diameter and costs *£269. 020-7636 1666; heals.com*



THE LATEST OFFERING FROM **PHILLIP JEFFRIES**, 'JACK'S JUNGLE', IS NAMED AFTER THE FOUNDER'S SON AND IS SHOWN IN PALM ON WHITE PAPERWEAVE. IT IS 91.4CM WIDE (UNTRIMMED) AND COSTS *£81.60* A METRE FROM BEACON HILL AT DESIGN CENTRE, CHELSEA HARBOUR, SW10. *020-7352 0931; PHILLIPJEFFRIES.COM*



TREASURE CHESTS

Founded three years ago, **The New Craftsmen** is waving a flag for small British producers. Designers and artists, such as textile artist Aimee Betts, are given a drawer from which to showcase their work for you to buy and commission. The Mayfair showroom, at 34 North Row, London W1 ,is the kind of place you can lose yourself in for hours. *020-7148 3190; thenewcraftsmen.com*

NEWS IN BRIEF *Black Edition has introduced its first vinyl wallcoverings – six designs that feature modern damasks and intricate mosaics in rich metallic tones. Durable and easy to clean, the wallcoverings cost from £95 a metre. romoblack.com* ▷

JOSHUA MONAGHAN; GARETH HACKER PHOTOGRAPHY


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I LOVE THIS NEW CROSS-STITCH FABRIC FROM JANE CHURCHILL; IT CONJURES UP IMAGES OF COTTAGE GARDENS AND DAMSON JAM. 'FONTANA' (J838F-01), COTTON/LINEN MIX, 137CM WIDE, £95 A METRE. *020-8877 6400; JANECHURCHILL.COM*



REFLECTED GLORY

Well-made, classic mirrors can be surprisingly hard to find. Look no further than the 'Belvedere' beaded brass mirror (60 x 51cm, £342), by **Vaughan**, which is also available in bronze. *020-7349 4600; vaughandesigns.com*





The design of the 'Black Crystal Petal' mixer is inspired by water leaves and palmettes

These taps, inspired by Napoleon's Château de la Malmaison, are by Christofle for **THG** Paris. You can see them at the revamped Bathrooms International by THG showroom in Belgravia; from £2,065. *thgparis.com*

***NEWS IN BRIEF** Château Gütsch in Switzerland, a grand boutique hotel, has undergone a design overhaul by Martyn Lawrence Bullard. He has used his wallpaper collection for Schumacher, available from Turnell & Gigon, in many of the rooms. chateau-guetsch.ch | turnellandgigon.com* ▷

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FROM TOP Rene with his family in their Copenhagen kitchen. His Electrolux 'Grand Cuisine Combination Oven'. One of his open-shelved units

COOK'S KITCHEN

Ever wondered what a top chef such as René Redzepi from Noma in Copenhagen cooks on at home? It's the super-stylish Electrolux **Grand Cuisine** range of appliances. His Nordic-feel kitchen is a collaboration between Danish carpenter Garde Hvalsøe and Dinesen flooring. *grandcuisine.com*



WHITE LIGHT

The idea for designer **Matteo Cibic**'s simple, symmetrical 'Pom Pom' light grew from a study of exotic plants. The frame is made of metal, with a cement and resin base on the table light. Ceiling light, £893; table light, £516; and single light in copper, £171. *calligaris.co.uk*

NEWS IN BRIEF *Heal's has collaborated with social workspace Forge & Co to introduce a new 'co-working' cafe in its Tottenham Court Road store. As well as a lounge bar and brasserie, there are 14 individual desk and chair areas, which can be rented on a monthly basis – ideal for small start-up businesses or out-of-town designers needing a temporary base when in London. heals.com forgeandco.co.uk* ▷

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THE FASHION DESIGNER MATTHEW WILLIAMSON HAS LAUNCHED A RANGE OF SURPRISINGLY LOW-KEY FABRICS, WHICH COMPLEMENT HIS EXUBERANT DESIGNS. 'CUBANA WEAVES' COSTS FROM £49 A METRE, FROM OSBORNE & LITTLE. *020-8812 3123; OSBORNEANDLITTLE.COM*



TRUE BLUES

The new Blue collection from **Little Greene** dispels the idea that it is a cold colour. There are 21 paint shades. Seen here are 'Arquerite' and 'Pale Wedgwood' (on wall, from left) and 'Delicate Blue' (on tray), all £18 a litre, or £37 for 2.5 litres. *020-7935 8844; littlegreene.com*



TWO-IN-ONE DESIGN

Add a pop of modernity to a traditional room with Virginia White's high-gloss lacquer table, which comes with inset trays. It measures 45 x 100 x 50cm (inset trays 49cm square), and costs £3,900. The design is available from **Thomas Goode**. *020-7499 2823; thomasgoode.com*

NEWS IN BRIEF *Look out for The Rug Company's new collection with Paul Smith, as well as new children's designs by Barber & Osgerby. therugcompany.com* □

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INSPIRATION FROM ALIDAD

To celebrate London Design Festival, the award-winning interior designer Alidad will create a scheme for one of **Guinevere**'s windows on the King's Road – launching on September 19. Gabby Deeming, *House & Garden*'s decoration director, will be in conversation with Alidad on Monday, September 21 at 3pm, discussing his inspiration for the scheme and working with antiques. There will also be a Q&A session. Places are limited; email dean@guinevere.co.uk to reserve your place. *guinevere.co.uk*



Reader event: Seabourn at Coworth Park

Join *House & Garden* and Seabourn at Coworth Park, the luxury hotel and spa bordering Great Windsor park in Ascot, on Tuesday, October 20, 12–3pm. There will be a Champagne reception during which a Seabourn representative will introduce new cruise destinations to *House & Garden* readers, followed by a three-course lunch in Restaurant Coworth Park. Tickets cost £60 and include a glass of Champagne, lunch with wine, coffee and petits fours, and a gift bag. There will also be free entry into a prize draw to win a hamper. *To book, send a cheque made payable to 'Coworth Park' to Coworth Park, Blacknest Road, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7SE, or to reserve a place, email cpcountrylife@dorchestercollection.com. Payment must be received no later than 14 days in advance. Coworth Park is also offering guests a 25-minute manicure treatment at a special rate of £20 (usually £35). Book by emailing spa.cpa@dorchestercollection.com and quoting 'House & Garden special rate'.*

FOCUS/15 'My philosophy is to create a balance between furniture, art and sculpture,' says interior designer **Douglas Mackie**, who will be in conversation with *House & Garden* editor Hatta Byng at Focus/15, at Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, on September 22, 3–4pm. To book, call 020-7352 1900, email enquiries@dcch.co.uk, or visit dcch.co.uk.

Lecture reminder



This year's **Decorex** lecture is on Sunday, September 20, 12–12.45pm, at Syon Park, Middlesex. *House & Garden* editor Hatta Byng (above far left) will host a design panel discussing 'The Future of Craft'. The panel comprises (from left): Jonathan Reed of Studio Reed, Lulu Lytle of Soane and The New Craftsmen's Mark Henderson. Open to trade only. *decorex.com*

CELEBRATING A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY

Also at Decorex, at 12pm on Tuesday, September 22, *House & Garden*'s features director David Nicholls will be speaking to the rug designer **Luke Irwin** about a discovery that Luke has made in his garden in Wiltshire earlier this year: evidence of what may be one of the largest Roman villas built in Britain. The talk will follow Luke's path of exploration and inspiration over the months that followed.

Christmas shopping

The **Spirit of Christmas Fair** is *House & Garden*'s Christmas shopping event taking place at Olympia, W14 on November 2–8. Subscribers can apply for a free ticket online at spiritofchristmasfair.co.uk, or by calling the box office on 0844-412 4629, quoting 'SP01' and your subscriber reference number. There is one free ticket per subscription, available in advance. Extra tickets can be bought online for the special price of £16.50 each (£22 at the door), including a copy of the fair guide. Book online or call 0844-412 4629* and quote 'SP02' to receive this offer. **Calls cost 6p per minute plus network extras. A booking fee applies to extra tickets. Box office closes November 1* ▷

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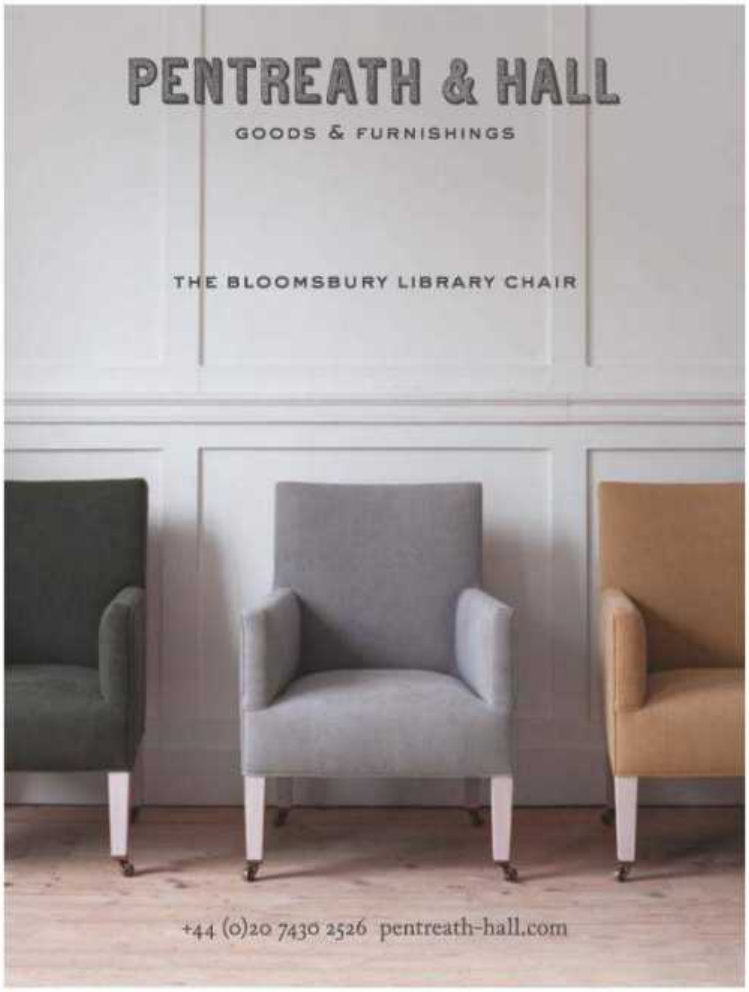
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Spirit of Christmas

LAURA HOULDSWORTH previews the treats on offer at Olympia ahead of the festive season

The Spirit of Christmas Fair, at Olympia from Monday, November 2 to Sunday, November 8, in association with *House & Garden*, is a one-stop Christmas shopping event. From exquisite and authentic gifts, clothing and home accessories, to gourmet food and wine, the hand-picked collection of independent boutiques offers a wide range of exciting and unique products to inspire you this Christmas.



Feeling a chill in the air? Head to ***Anna Söderström*** *(stand H24), a Swedish boutique that makes knitted scarves, snoods and throws by hand, using traditional techniques and natural fibres. This Scottish cashmere shawl in pink costs £179. 07825-323253; annasoderstrom.com*



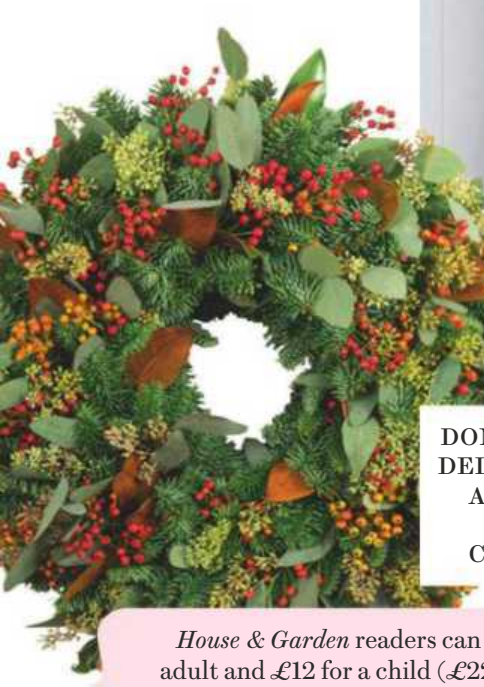
TREAT YOURSELF

You won't be able to resist the offerings of **Cocoa Bombón** (stand FD78), a Dorking-based company that makes treats from quality Belgian chocolate. Its best-sellers are the brittles – chocolate and caramel pieces fused with flavours such as chilli, coffee and sea salt. This box of 'Sea Salt & Crushed Caramel' costs £9.95 for 12 pieces. *07541-930139; cocoabombon.com*



GET COOKING

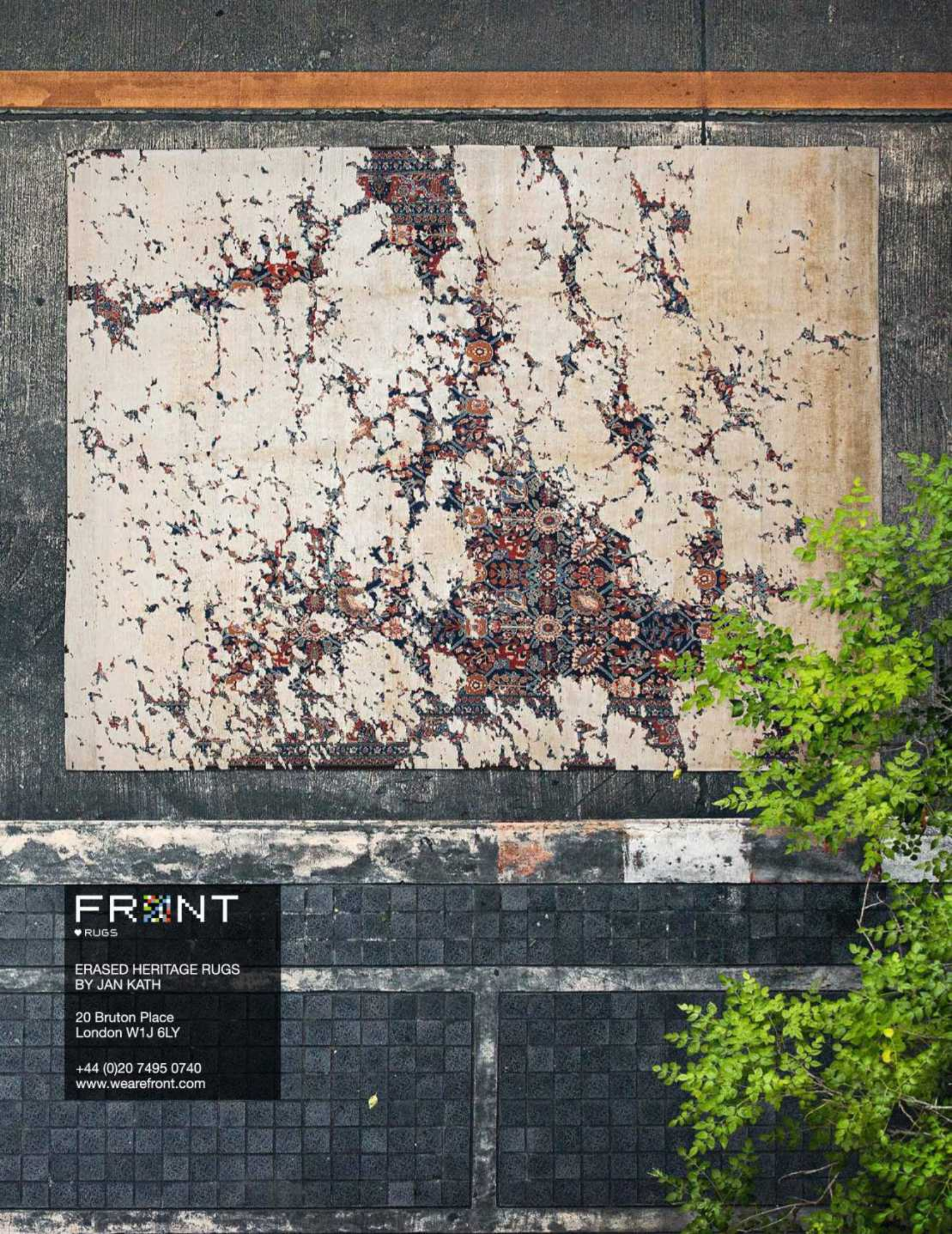
New to the fair is **Sophie Conran** (stand C51), who will be showcasing pieces from her stylish home accessories range, including baking dishes, china, tablecloths and Christmas decorations. These linen aprons cost £32.95 each. *020-7603 1522; sophieconran.com*



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House & Garden readers can buy advance tickets for the Spirit of Christmas Fair for the special price of £16.50 for an adult and £12 for a child (£22 and £13 respectively on the door), by calling 0844-412 4629* and quoting 'SP02'. There will be late-night shopping on Thursday, November 5 until 8pm. For general information, visit spiritofchristmasfair.co.uk.
**Calls cost 6p per minute plus network extras. Booking fee applies. Box office closes November 1, 2015* ▷

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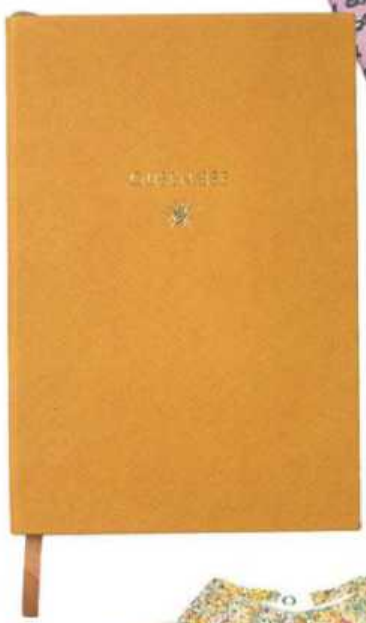
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SPECIAL SILKS

The handmade printed silk ties and men's accessories from **Reef Knots** (stand H6) are inspired by the ocean and the summer months, with playful designs to remind the wearer of the times when they are not wearing a suit. This 'Fish Pink' silk tie costs £69. *0845-094 4165; reefknots.com*





Start a buzz

Sloane Stationery (stand H15) makes a range of smart yet playful cards, notebooks and desk accessories using the traditional English craft of bookbinding. This A5 'Queen Bee' notebook has lined paper and a pretty gold-embossed motif. It costs £29. *07910-216005; sloanestationery.com*



SPANISH CLOTHING BRAND PEPA & CO (STAND B102) DESIGNS AND SOURCES BEAUTIFUL, TRADITIONAL CLOTHES FOR BABIES AND CHILDREN UP TO THE AGE OF 10. THIS 'BABY KNITTED SET' IN BEIGE COSTS £48, AND THE 'BABY PRE WALKER' LEATHER SHOES COST £24. *020-7386 8991; PEPAANDCOMPANY.COM* ▷

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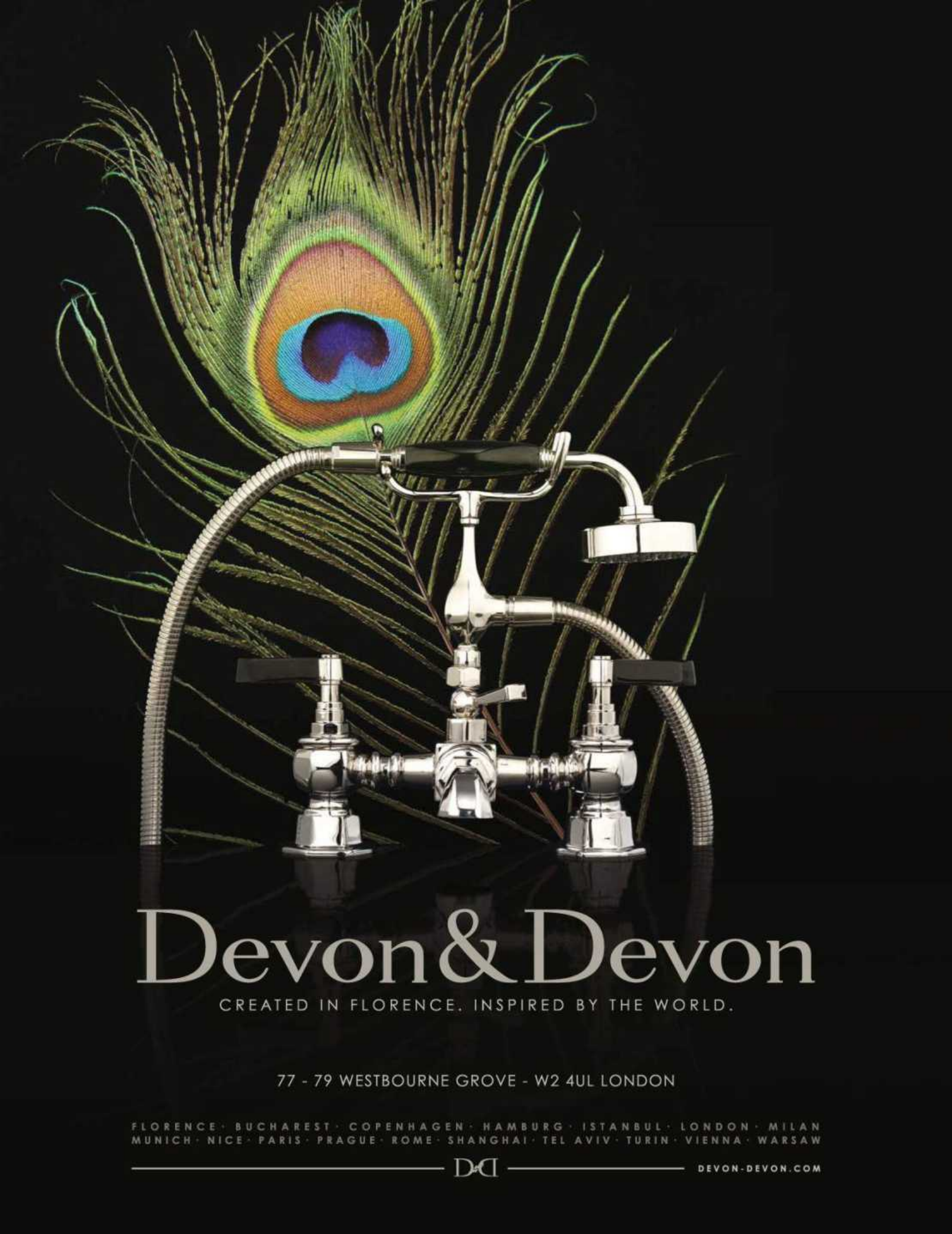
COCK-A-HOOP

Look out for the London-based jewellery designer Davina Combe (stand B103), who creates elegant contemporary jewellery using gold vermeil, silver and semi-precious stones. These 'Sienna Hoop' earrings, made from 18-carat gold vermeil, come with a range of stones, including two types of blue topaz; £130 a pair. *020-3397 8402; davinacombe.com*

THE BEAUTY MULTITASKER

Pommade Divine, a 300-year-old beauty balm (stand E60), is coming to the fair for the first time. Known as 'Nanny's Magic Ointment' in the Edwardian era, it can be used as a moisturiser, to soothe minor burns, cuts and bruises, and to reduce the likelihood of scarring. A 50ml pot costs £19.80. *020-7734 1234; pommadedivine.com* □




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COUNTRY HOUSE STYLE NEVER GOES OUT OF FASHION

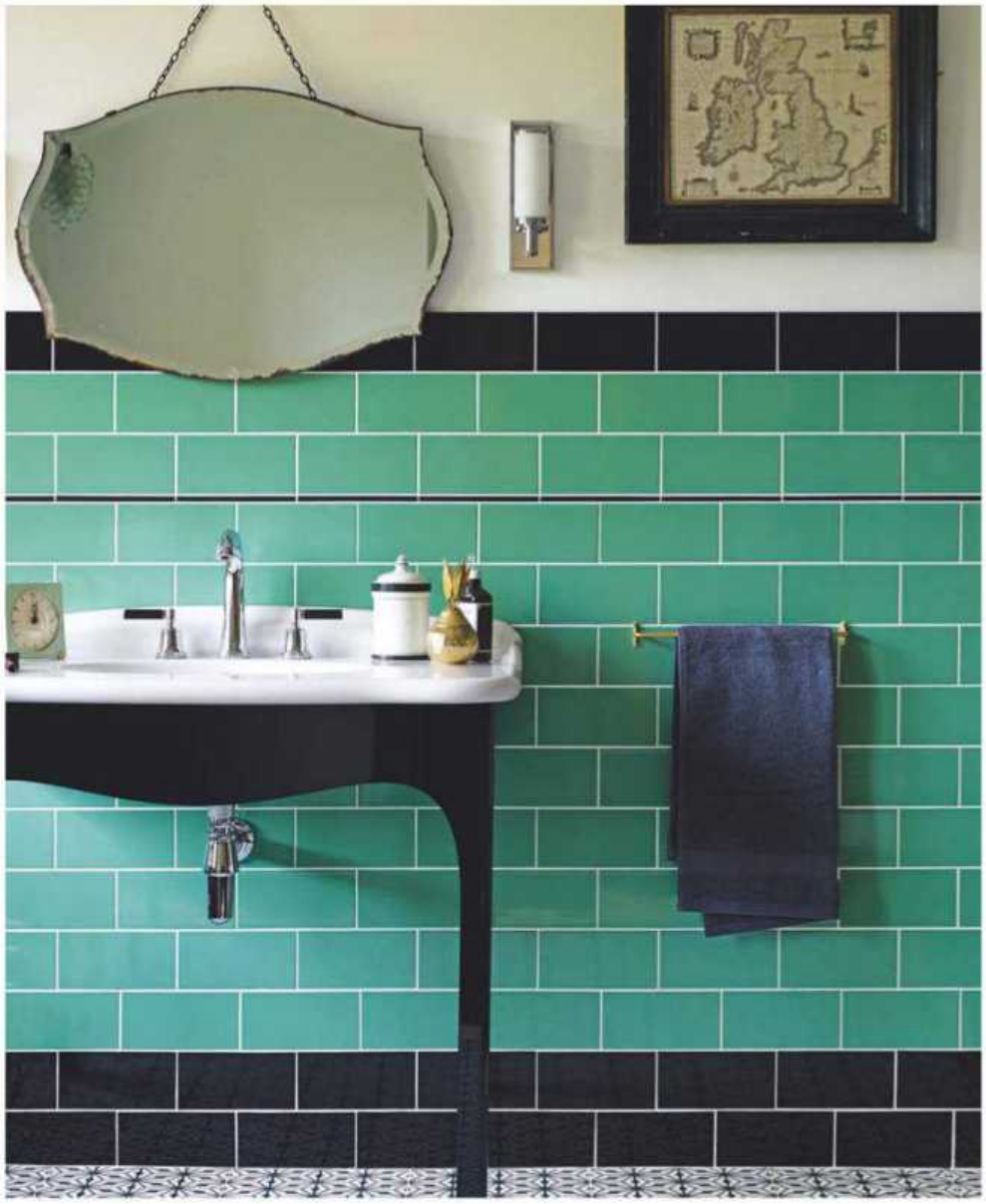
Since 1983, Fired Earth has offered customers quality products produced with authenticity, creativity and style. What began as a small Oxfordshire-based company specialising in terracotta floor tiles has evolved into an impressive treasure trove of design inspiration. Its collections of tiles, paints and wallpapers are now available alongside its freestanding and fitted kitchen and bathroom range from 67 showrooms nationwide.

One of the most enduring styles for interiors is the classic and timeless English country-house look. Over the decades, it has evolved with modern necessities and is now best summed up as comfortable elegance. Think fresh-cut flowers and lived-in upholstery. On its appeal, Fired Earth's creative director Rob Whitaker says: 'Many of us have homes built during the nineteenth or twentieth centuries and, although not all of us live in houses large enough to be open to the public, the country house aesthetic is nevertheless still popular and scales down perfectly to smaller houses and even apartments.'

Decorative wallpapers offer the perfect backdrop for any scheme. The team at Fired Earth has created a stunning range evoking the timeless appeal of this stylish yet relaxed look. The ebullient florals of 'Secret Garden' and, conversely, the enchanting trellis motif of 'Walled Garden' show just how versatile it can be.







The expert team at Fired Earth has curated an impressive collection of products into several key looks. Finding a style to suit your home has never been easier

'Our new patterns have been designed with consummate care in order to reflect the strong visual aesthetic so apparent in British country houses,' Rob adds. The Fired Earth paint collection – including recent additions such as 'Peafowl' and 'Hummingbird' – beautifully complement the stunning papers.

It was from the Twenties onwards that the owners of larger country homes installed plumbed-in bathrooms and, enchanted by their gentle art deco lines, Fired Earth has designed many of its bathroom pieces to echo these original fittings. Additionally, the beautiful new Cinema range of wall tiles offers the perfect solution for those looking to create a Thirties feel to a bathroom.

Decorative floor tiles are enjoying a resurgence and Fired Earth has created new ranges; we love the 'Sorrento', 'Paris', which offers subtler pattern, and 'Cecille'. Pretty and feminine, they're utterly in tune with the faded grandeur of many country interiors.

Essentially, Fired Earth has reimagined the best from the past to offer British, modern designs for every scheme worth taking note of □

All tile, wallpaper, paint and bathroom products seen here are available from Fired Earth. For more information visit one of Fired Earth's nationwide showrooms, call 0845-366 0400 or visit firedearth.com

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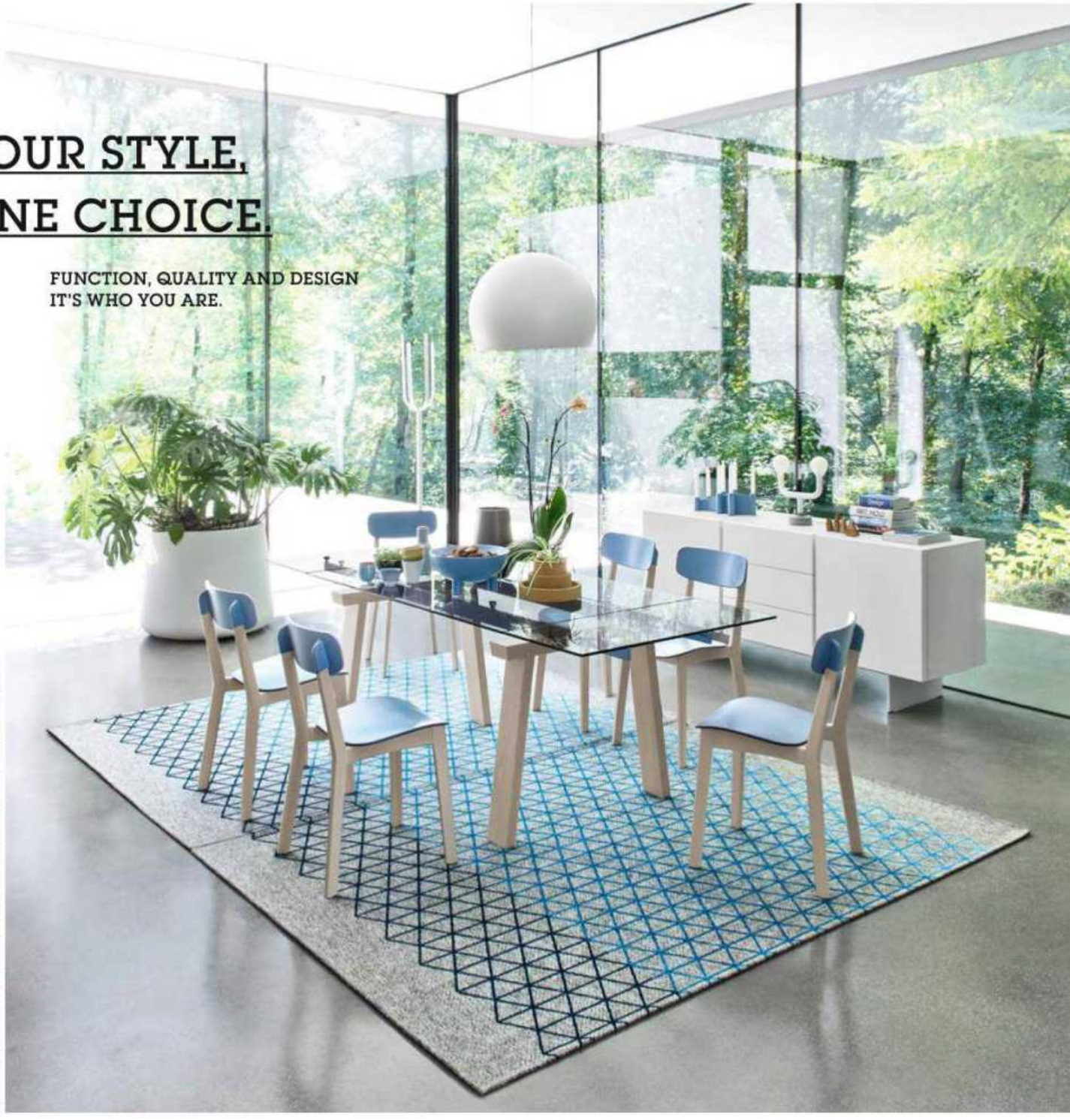
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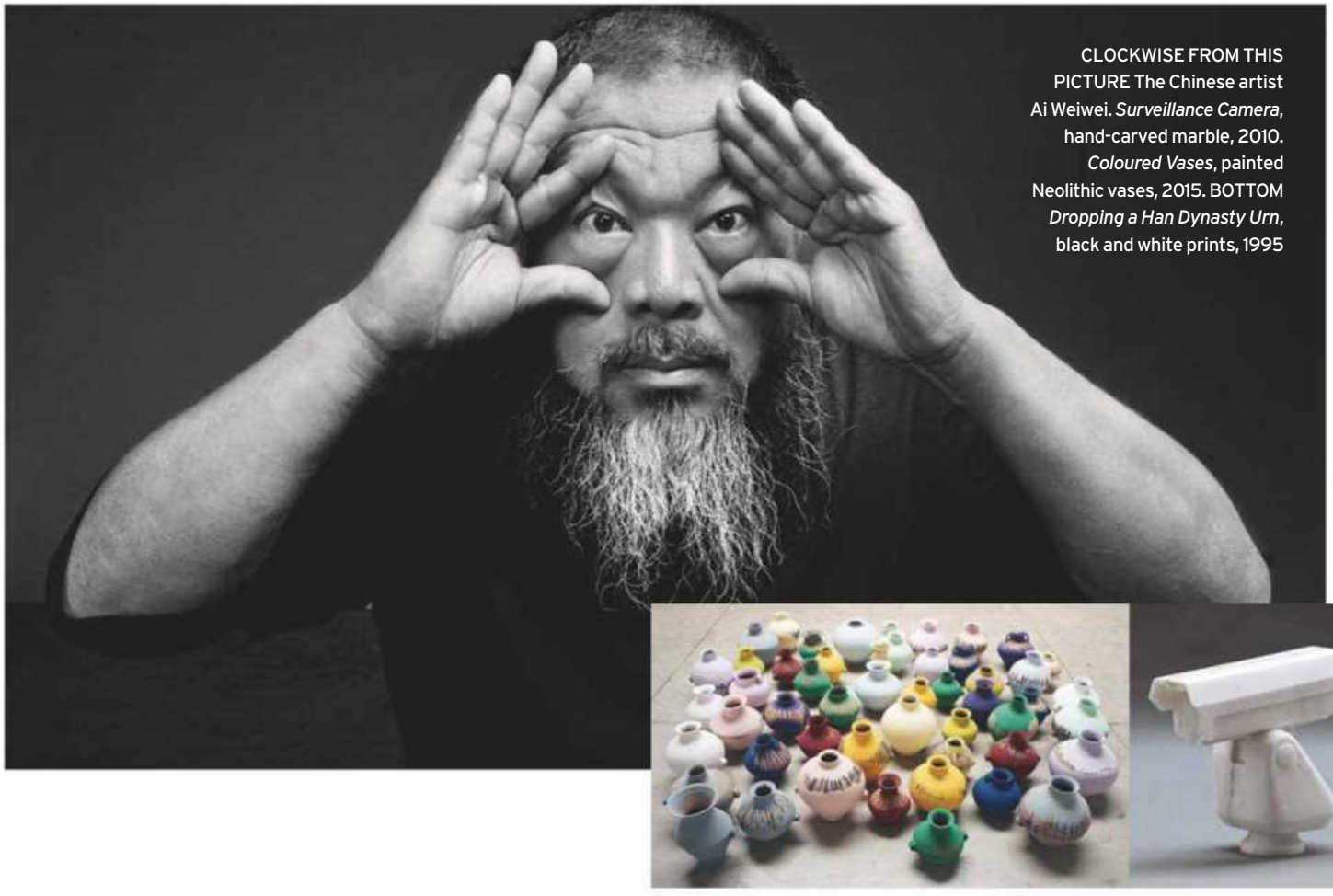
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art scene

Edited by EMILY TOBIN



CLOCKWISE FROM THIS PICTURE The Chinese artist Ai Weiwei. *Surveillance Camera*, hand-carved marble, 2010. *Coloured Vases*, painted Neolithic vases, 2015. BOTTOM *Dropping a Han Dynasty Urn*, black and white prints, 1995

REVOLUTIONARY PERSPECTIVE

CELINA FOX profiles artist Ai Weiwei ahead of his exhibition at the Royal Academy

Despite – or maybe because of – government harassment, house arrest, imprisonment and travel bans, Ai Weiwei is China's best known contemporary artist. Born in Beijing in 1957, he studied film before moving to New York, where he lived from 1981 to 1993, enrolling at Parsons School of Design. On his return to Beijing, he found a country changed almost beyond recognition, in which economic reform and rapid urbanisation were accompanied by massive corruption and human rights violations. Ai's criticism of Chinese society has brought him into conflict with authorities, but his solo exhibitions worldwide – championing freedom of expression – open regardless.



© AI WEIWEI

For his latest show at the Royal Academy – he was made Honorary Academician in 2011 – he has continued to work with highly skilled craftsmen and traditional materials. In the manner of Marcel Duchamp's readymades, he recycles historical materials ruthlessly removed from their original context during and after the Cultural Revolution, whether in the form of architectural salvage or Han Dynasty pots, as seen in his *Coloured Vases* – Neolithic ceramics dipped in paint. The once ubiquitous Shanghai Forever brand of bikes are stacked to form stainless-steel sculptures, reflecting on China's polluting car culture. Some of his more politically pointed works on show include his CCTV *Surveillance Camera* and *Video Recorder* carved in marble.

As this retrospective shows, Ai's works continue to push the boundaries of creative dissent, and as of July this year, the artist had his passport returned to him, so he will be able to travel for the first time since 2011 – marking a new wave of freedom.

'Ai Weiwei' is at the Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, W1, September 19–December 13, admission £16; royalacademy.org.uk ▷



THE WORLD OF

Susan Morris

Senior researcher at Richard Green Gallery

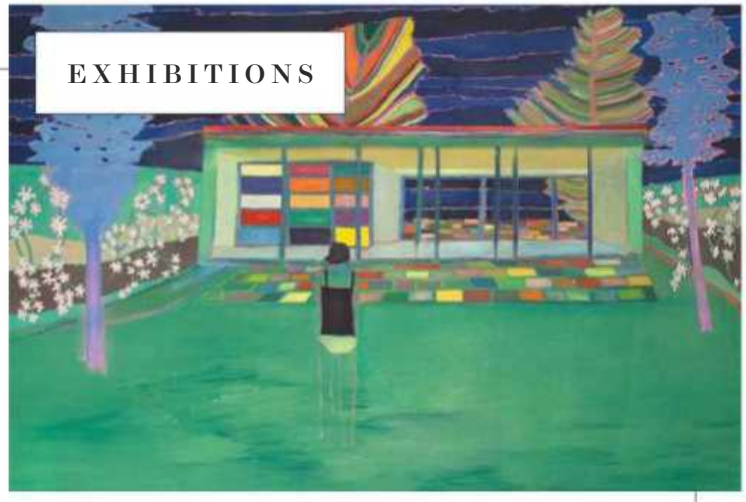
➡ 'I studied art history at the Courtauld Institute and Yale and spent six years as an editor of *The Antique Collector* before joining Richard Green's London gallery in 1996. My job is to research paintings, assesing their authenticity and value before the gallery buys them, and to catalogue them once they've been acquired. It's a fascinating task because the gallery's stock is so varied, from seventeenth-century Dutch flower paintings to wonderful landscapes by Monet and twentieth-century works. My office on Bond Street is lined with around 6,000 books.

➡ 'One of the most rewarding aspects of the job is discussing our paintings with all kinds of specialists – not only art historians and conservators, but also botanists, in the case of Dutch flower paintings, or costume historians.

➡ 'We recently made the discovery of an unknown Monet pastel of the lighthouse at Le Havre on the back of a rare Monet pastel sky study; the second image had been hidden behind the mount.

➡ Meticulous provenance research is crucial in selling paintings today. A Pissarro gouache turned out to have been owned by Felicie Bernstein, one of the first collectors of Impressionism in Germany; I found a photograph of the gouache hanging in Felicie's music room in Berlin. It is very moving to contemplate a work of art that has been treasured through the centuries and to see the same enthusiasm in the eyes of today's collectors.'

EXHIBITIONS



TOM HAMMICK: WALL, WINDOW, WORLD
Flowers Gallery on east London's Kingsland Road presents a solo show of the British painter and printmaker Tom Hammick. Many of the works on show have been made in response to the year he spent as the English National Opera's artist in residence in 2014.
September 9–October 10; flowersgallery.com

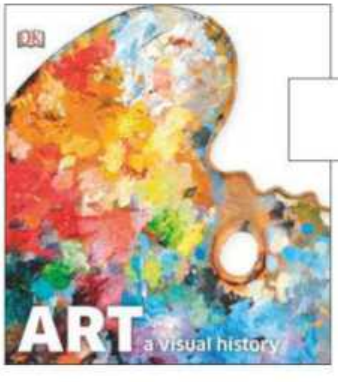
M+ SIGG COLLECTION: CHINESE ART FROM THE 1970S TO NOW
The Whitworth in Manchester charts the emergence of contemporary art in China with works owned by Swiss collector Uli Sigg, such as pieces by Ai Weiwei, Cao Fei and Zhang Peili.
Until 20 September; manchester.ac.uk/whitworth





THE WORLD GOES POP
Tate Modern sets out to undo the myth that Pop art was simply an Anglo-American phenomenon, featuring artists from Latin America, Asia, Europe and the Middle East.
September 17–January 24; tate.org.uk

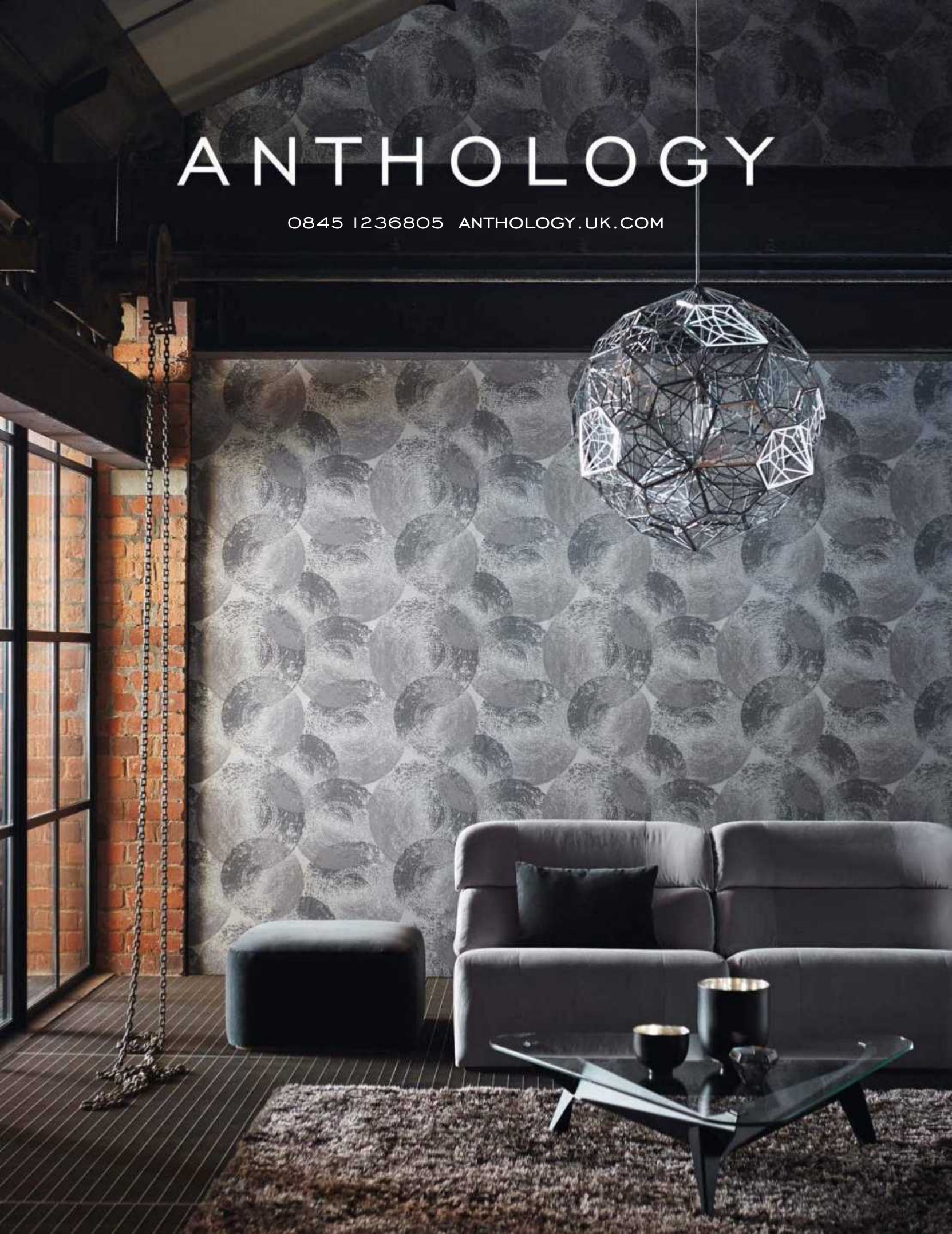
FROM TOP Tom Hammick, *Pavilion*, 2013. Teresa Burga, *Cubes*, 1968. Weng Fei, *On the Wall - Shenzhen*, 2002



BOOK

Art: A Visual History by Robert Cumming (D K Publishing, £20) This book defines everything from Impressionism to Expressionism, and from Klimt to Koons, with detailed profiles of over 650 artists from early history to the present day □

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Root and branch approach

EMILY TOBIN profiles three artists who reflect on trees and their place in the wider landscape through a range of mediums



From the inception of Western painting, artists have depicted trees. This proliferated in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries as they became more concerned with the realistic portrayal of the natural word. Later Constable delighted in the subject matter, painting and drawing the trees near his house in Hampstead as singular subjects. After his infamous ear incident, Van Gogh spent a year at the Saint-Paul Asylum in Saint-Rémy. While his mental state continued to decline, painting provided a constant. Doctors, hallways, flowers and wheat fields were all set to canvas, but one particularly evocative painting was his depiction of a solitary mulberry tree in the hospital garden: a swirling mass of chrome-yellow leaves growing from a rocky bluff. David Hockney has repeated the motif, from palm trees to felled trees to shady tunnels of trees.

ON A THEME

Beyond their decorative attributes, trees have been used allegorically throughout the centuries, hinting at more important meanings that the viewer must detect – as these contemporary artists demonstrate.

⬆ *JULIAN PERRY*

'My interest in trees is as signifiers,' says Julian Perry of his hyperrealist paintings. 'My work is concerned with what the landscape can show us about ourselves. This can be positive – the creation of wildlife habitats – and negative – the effects of airborne pollutants.' He has examined the consequences of pollarding and coppicing and his works at this year's Venice Biennale explore 'the effects of climate change as embodied in increased rates of coastal erosion'. Silver birch trees are captured at the moment they topple over the cliffs of Benacre in Suffolk. Their exposed roots, ripped from the ground, bear clumps of earth and patches of grass; the vast scale of these add to the sense of violence and turbulence. *Prices start at £3,000; julianperry.info. Julian's show 'When Yellow Leaves' is at Mascalls Gallery, Kent, from September 19 to December 12*



⬅ *WILLIAM KENTRIDGE*

For South African-born William Kentridge, landscapes started off as an incidental element in other drawings: 'A window behind a couple dancing, an open space behind a portrait. Gradually the landscape took over and flooded the interiors. Few people in the pictures managed to retain their place in them.' Trees are a recurring image; they are depicted in expressionistic charcoal and pastel, and in calligraphic ink drawings, which are painted on encyclopedia pages, torn up and reassembled. There are regal trees with dense foliage, vast trunks that have been rent in two and spindly trees confined within formal hedges; the landscape is not simply a bucolic idea but it is a tool for political analysis. A set of works recently displayed at the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition examined Nelson Mandela's 1956 treason trial, where his father, Sydney Kentridge, defended Mandela. *Prices start at £40,000; mariangoodman.com. William's show 'More Sweetly Play the Dance' will be at Marian Goodman Gallery from September 11 to October 24*

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP Julian Perry, *Benacre Tree*, oil on panel, 42 x 31cm. William Kentridge, *Lekkerbreek*, linocut on sheets from the Universal Technological Dictionary, 189 x 126cm. Anna Harley, *Catkins*, screen print, 56 x 76cm



⬅ *ANNA HARLEY*

'I had a rather nomadic early childhood,' says Anna Harley. 'By the age of six, I had lived on three different continents, so trees represent the security, consistency and permanence I missed out on when I was young.' Anna comes from a long line of artists – the Swedish landscape artists Maja and Gustaf Fjaestad and Fritz Lindström are among her ancestors – but it is Peter Doig's semi-urban landscapes that have had the most impact on her practice. Anna's screen prints verge on the abstract; her tree forms are often cropped or focus on the silhouettes and negative spaces between the branches. 'I try to let each print evolve, allowing it to take on a life of its own and capitalising on happy accidents as they happen.' Her work is characterised by the metallic inks she uses and a muted colour palette. 'I particularly love trees in winter when the sculptural forms of the boughs are exposed; they have a wonderful haunting quality.' *Prices start at £40; annaharley.com* □

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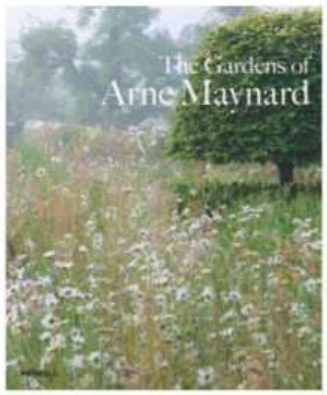
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Words & pictures

What to read: the latest books chosen by ROSE DAHLSEN

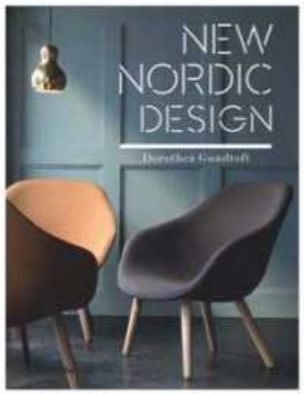
THE GARDENS OF ARNE MAYNARD
Arne Maynard (Merrell, £45)

Arne Maynard creates gardens that epitomise the romance of the English countryside. Blowsy roses, jewelled meadows, elegant topiary and richly ornamental kitchen gardens characterise his work, coming together in harmony in gardens that he says must 'hold hands' with the architecture and landscape to which they belong. This beautiful book documents 12 of Arne's gardens, with photographs by his partner William Collinson. The projects include his own garden at Allt-y-bela (featured in *House & Garden*'s September issue) and his previous garden, Guanock, as well as gardens in Italy and the US. Arne's text is enlightening, giving insight into his motivations, inspirations and practices, with additional chapters on some of the elements that are central to his work, from traditional craftsmanship to the art of pleaching trees. Whether an intricate Elizabethan knot garden or a meadow planted simply with *Tulipa* 'Jan Reuss', the projects are full of inspiration, and the images will remain with you long after you have closed the book. **Clare Foster**



NEW NORDIC DESIGN
Dorothea Gundtoft (Thames & Hudson, £19.95)

The quiet, understated appeal of Scandinavian design is hardly a new thing. We've been enamoured with this cool brand of functionalism since the Forties, when Hans Wegner designed his 'Wishbone' chair, but for the inhabitants of Europe's northern reaches, well-produced, carefully crafted design is part of everyday life – in Denmark, even the school chairs are by Arne Jacobsen. Danish stylist Dorothea Gundtoft pays homage to this rich history in her book, *New Nordic Design*. Established brands like Artek and Republic of Fritz Hansen are profiled alongside newer additions to the design stable, such as Olafur Eliasson. Commentary from key figures provides an insight into the evolution of this look. The writer and editor Dominique Browning notes that 'magazines like *House & Garden* did a lot to promote the new Scandinavian design' after the Second World War. Like the Nordic aesthetic, the layout is clean and simple; generous illustrations of beautifully proportioned rooms and slick furniture abound. **Emily Tobin** ▷



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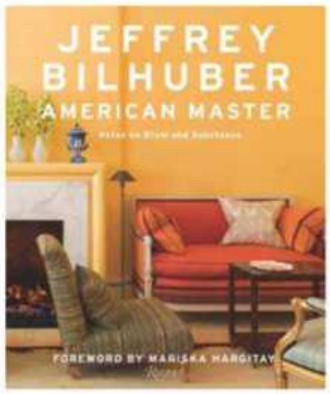
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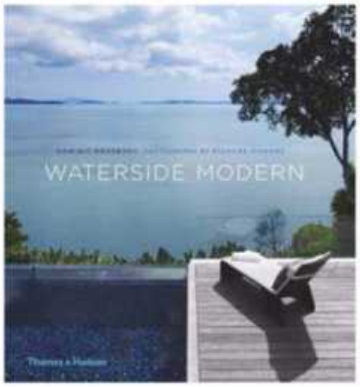
JEFFREY BILHUBER AMERICAN MASTER: NOTES ON STYLE AND SUBSTANCE
Jeffrey Bilhuber with Sara Ruffin Costello (Rizzoli, £45)

'More pizzazz and polish!' is Jeffrey Bilhuber's mantra. This quintessential New York decorator is adored by his stylish American clients, including US *Vogue* editor Anna Wintour, Iman and David Bowie, and Hubert de Givenchy, who was one of his first clients. 'A good show is all about timing, rhythm, syntax and narrative,' Jeffrey writes on the subject of his decorating style. He loves rhapsodic colour combinations (think: bright blue cornicing and fuchsia wallpaper) and layers of contrasting patterns (tiny diamonds with large chintz). But he is also able to contain everything in an elegant framework, with serene and minimal notes playing off against the lavish party pieces. Inviting a decorator of this standing into your home requires trust. American actress Mariska Hargitay (of *Law & Order* fame) was horrified when she first walked into her New York home halfway through a renovation by Jeffrey. 'We hated it,' she writes in the foreword to this book. The peacock blue wallpaper and caramel coloured carpet looked ghastly. But Jeffrey persuaded her to judge it by the end result, whereupon she found her opinion, like the interior, transformed. The result was, she says: 'Mature, daring, playful and beautiful. At the end of the project, you get the best version not of him, but of you.' **Lucie Young**



WATERSIDE MODERN
Dominic Bradbury (Thames & Hudson, £19.95)

As someone who lives in Dorset, overlooking Chesil Beach and the great sweep of Lyme Bay, *Waterside Modern* is of particular interest, even if the houses that Dominic Bradbury writes about are vastly larger and more modern than mine. Alluringly shot by fellow *House & Garden* contributor Richard Powers, these 25 ocean and river-front homes are situated from Kent to the Caribbean, but they have plenty in common – including a striking predilection for free-standing baths. Low and long rather than tall and narrow, with expansive balconies and acres of glass, they're often on steeply sloping sites with lots of exposed concrete, the starkness of which is offset by the owners' quirky collections and furnishings. One exception is the super-stylish Casa MTL, midway between Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, where dark woods take the place of concrete, with quietly opulent results. Perhaps understandably, Dominic focuses more on the upsides of having a large architectural budget than the downsides of coastal living – salt-smeared windows and blistering paintwork, not to mention the toll taken by storms – but the houses in *Waterside Modern* are as much to dream about as to drool over. **Christopher Stocks** □




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We revisit a classic story from the *H&G* archive: our 2002 tour of the fashion and homeware designer's incredible Colorado ranch. It's an inspiring example of the all-American style for which he is famous. *houseandgarden.co.uk/ralphlauren*

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PHOTOGRAPHS **SHARYN CAIRNS** | STYLING **GABBY DEEMING, RUTH SLEIGHTHOLME** & **VIOLA LANARI**

Pouring from bucket, **'Zorro'** (blue), by Isa Glink for Kinnasand, polyethylene, £113 a metre, from Kinnasand. Suit, **'Olinda Velvet'** (blue/multi), by Jane Churchill, cotton/polyester, £95 a metre, from Colefax and Fowler. Hat, **'Nuno'** (multi), by Jane Churchill, linen/cotton, £65 a metre, from Colefax and Fowler. Bird, **'B115-09'** (belize-new dawn), by Bruno Triplet, silk, £252 a metre, from Sahco. Zinc-plated aluminium **bucket** (bleu flash), by Patrick Nadeau for Laorus, £99, from Barbed ▷



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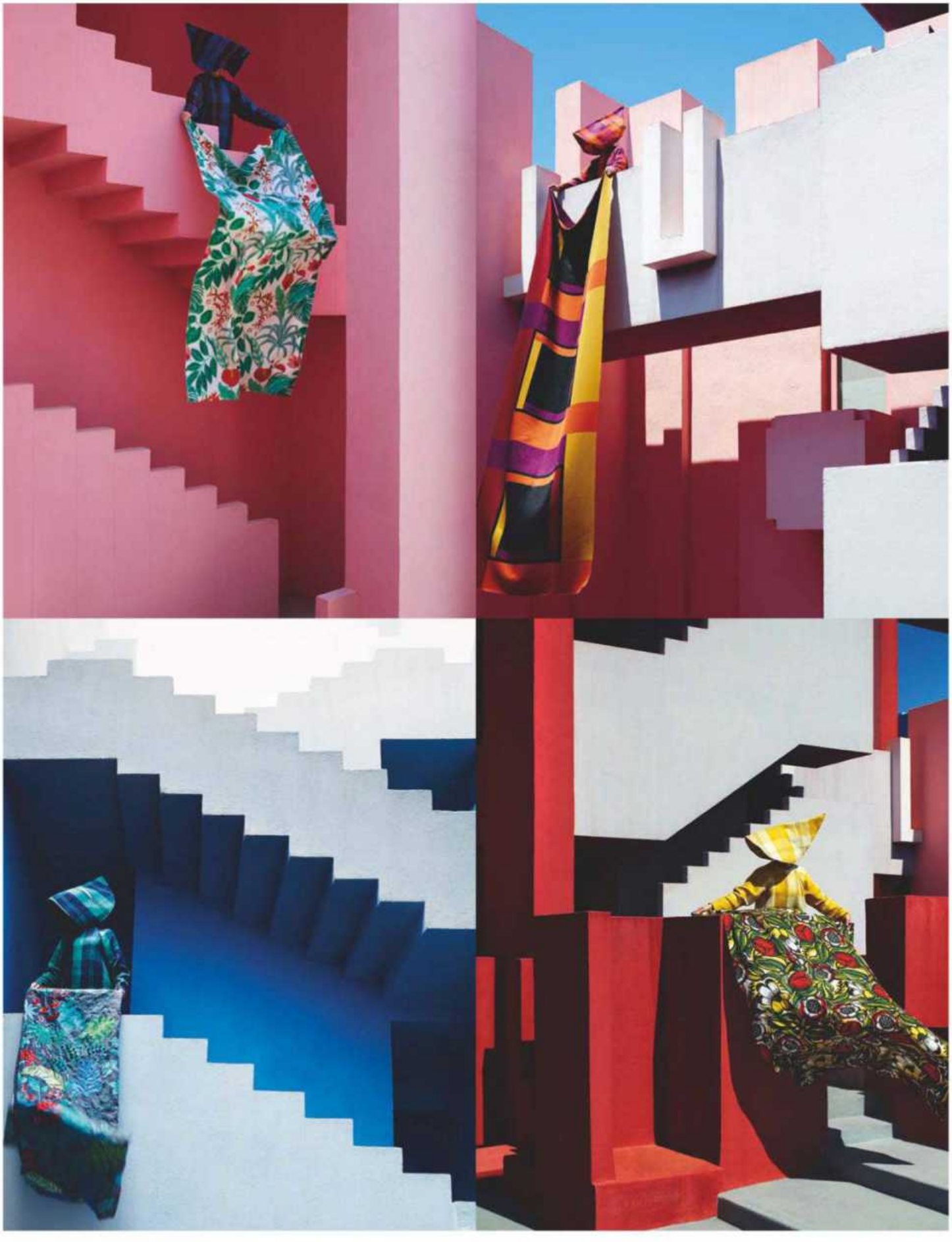
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Platform sandals, from top: **'Tagomago'** (001), silk, £118 a metre, from Dedar. Top and straps, **'Cervantes'** (amarillo), by Gastón y Daniela, viscose mix, £81.20 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd; trimmed with **'China Cloud'** (spring leaf), embroidered linen, 7.5cm wide, £90 a metre, from Samuel & Sons. Edge and top, **'Zagora'** (charcoal/calico), cotton mix, £62 a metre, from Sanderson; trim on straps, **'Tikki Tape'** (sea oyster), by Mary McDonald for Schumacher, linen/raffia, 8cm wide, £77.60 a metre, from Turnell & Gigon. Top, **'Almorò'** (giallo), polyamide mix, £136 a metre, from Rubelli (reverse shown on straps); trimmed with **'Bismark'** (600300), embroidered viscose, 8cm wide, £40 a metre, from Zimmer + Rohde. Straps and top, **'Polaris'** (brick), by Templeton by Michael S Smith, cotton mix, £195.60 a metre, from Jamb; trimmed with **'Palm Frond'** (sea oyster), by Mary McDonald for Schumacher, linen, 7cm wide, £85.80 a metre, from Turnell & Gigon ▷





OPPOSITE PAGE Hanging fabric, clockwise from top left: **'Hibiscus'** (49), linen, £195.50 a metre, from Nobilis. **'True Colours'**, silk, £370 a metre, Dimorestudio. **'La Foret'**, by Raoul Dufy in association with Brochier Soieries, linen, £115 a metre, from Christopher Farr Cloth. **'Floridita'** (02), by Matthew Williamson, linen mix, £159 a metre, from Osborne & Little. On figures, **'Playful Plaid'** (clockwise from top left: blue/wine, plummy/carrot, sunny/sand, navy/mint), linen, £124.50 a metre, from Dedar. **THIS PAGE** Wallpaper on floor, **'No Toys Allowed'** (001), by Toxic, £564 for a 250 x 350cm panel, from Pierre Frey. Suit, **'Color Blocks'** (jewel tones), linen, £194 a metre, from Stark Fabric. Hat, **'Samarkand'** (yellow), silk/cotton, 60cm wide, £80 a metre, from Nicholas Herbert. Bird, **'Panama'** (aqua), by Métaphores, viscose/cotton, £179.40 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd ▷



Floor, **'Georgiana'** (04), by Nina Campbell, linen mix, £109 a metre, from Osborne & Little. Suit, **'Ombra'** (peacock), linen, £80 a metre, from Black Edition by Romo. Hat, **'Leaf'** (moss), by Molly Mahon, linen/cotton, £144 a metre, from Tissus d'Hélène. Zinc-plated aluminium **bucket** (vert flash), by Patrick Nadeau for Laorus, £99, from Barbed ▷



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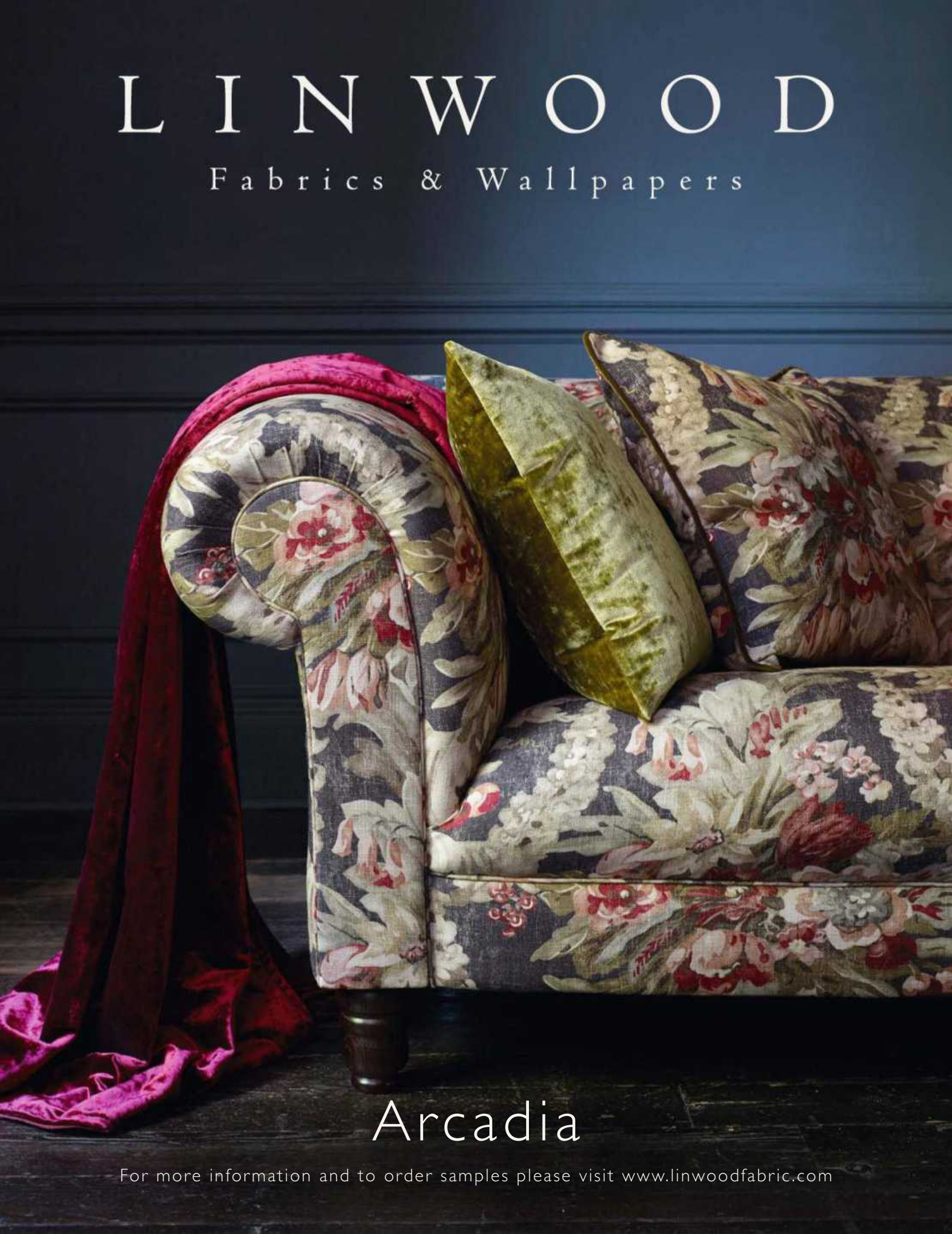
plainenglishdesign.co.uk



Jackets, **'Perspective Cavalière'** (from top: acajou, galet and aloe vera), silk and mercerised cotton jacquard, £370 a metre, from Hermès. Hats, **'Chevronné'** (from top: cassis, anthracite and yuzu), cotton, £187 a metre, from Hermès. Handmade wool, cotton and linen **pom-poms**, £70 for a bunch of three, from Jessica Light. Birds, **'Savile Row'** (argent), by Métaphores, wool/linen, £103.60 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd ▷

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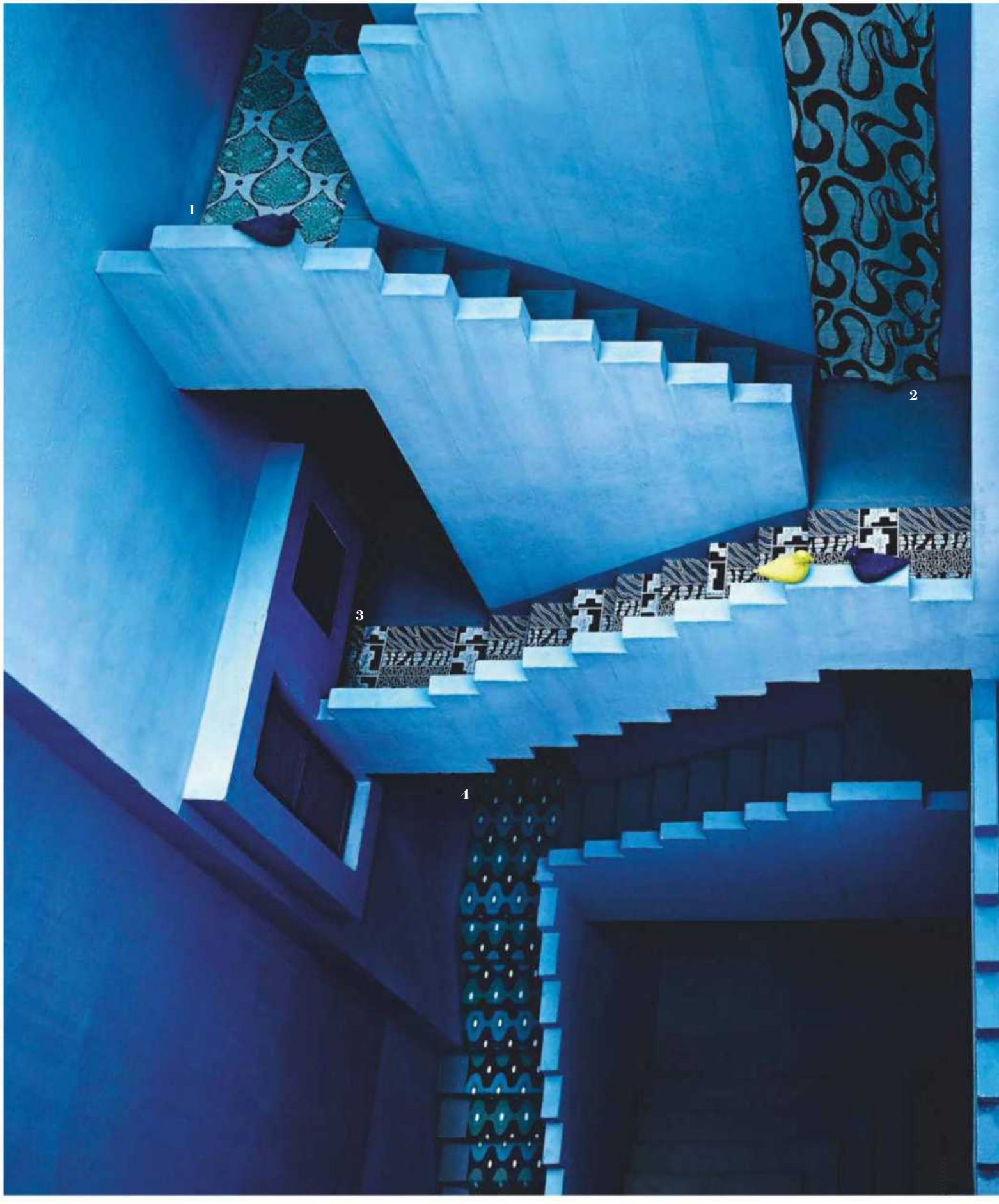


Pool shapes, **'NeoGeo'** (splash), by Kirkby Design x Jon Burgerman, cotton, £55 a metre, from Kirkby Design. Suit, **'B108-17'** (buttercup), by Bruno Triplet, mohair, £252 a metre, from Sahco. Hat, **'Cervantes'** (amarillo), by Gaston y Daniela, viscose mix, £81.20 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd. Bird, **'Ronda III'** (amarillo fluor), by Gastón y Daniela, cotton mix, £56.40 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd. Plastic **hose**, by Patrick Nadeau for Laorus, £30, from Barbed ▷



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Emily sofa covered in Capri silk velvet stone
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1
2
3
4



On stairs: **1 'Lotus'** (emerald), by Galbraith & Paul, linen, £266 a metre, from Tissus d'Hélène. **2 'Hofun'** (04), by No 9 Jim Thompson, linen, 68cm wide, £73 a metre, from Fox Linton. **3 'Anchor Song'** (charcoal), cotton, £65 a metre, from Clivework. **4 'Kubla Kahn'** (ocean), by Martyn Lawrence Bullard, linen, £248 a metre, from Tissus d'Hélène. **5 'Seurat'** (seaside), by Jonathan Adler, polyester/viscose, £95 a metre, from Kravet. **6 'Iceni'**, cotton mix, £120 a metre, from Margo Selby. Blue birds, **'Savile Row'** (pensée), by Métaphores, wool/linen, £103.60 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd. Yellow bird, **'Ronda III'** (verde mente), by Gastón y Daniela, cotton mix, £56.40 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd ▷



On figures, **'Maude Check'** (from left: 03, 02 and 01), by Nina Campbell, cotton, £49 a metre, from Osborne & Little. Pouring from buckets, from left: **'Giselle'** (navy), linen, £69 a metre, from Colefax and Fowler. **'Floriana'** (03), by Nina Campbell, linen, £69 a metre, from Osborne & Little. **'Bloomsbury Rose'** (indigo), cotton velvet, £110 a metre, from Designers Guild. Zinc-plated aluminium **buckets** (from left: bleu flash, vert flash and parme), by Patrick Nadeau for Laorus, £99 each, from Barbed ▷



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Hanging fabric, from top: **'Ska'**, polyester/nylon, £90 a metre, from Margo Selby. **'Hattarakukka'** (multi), cotton/linen, £46 a metre, from Marimekko. On figures, **'Playful Plaid'** (from top: sunny/sand and plummy/carrot), linen, £124.50 a metre, from Dedar ▷



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Suit, **'Hemingford'** (teal), by Jean Monro, cotton, £84 a metre, from Turnell & Gigon. Skirt, **'Limoncello'** (02), by Elitis, linen, 270cm wide, £292.80 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd. Hat, **'Charnwood'** (teal/nutmeg), cotton/polyester, £129 a metre, from G P & J Baker. Birds, from left: **'Patna'** (red/green), £244 a metre; **'Daisy Chain'** (multi), £264 a metre; and **'Lanterns'** (multi), £256 a metre; all linen, by Elizabeth Eakins, from Tissus d'Hélène ▷



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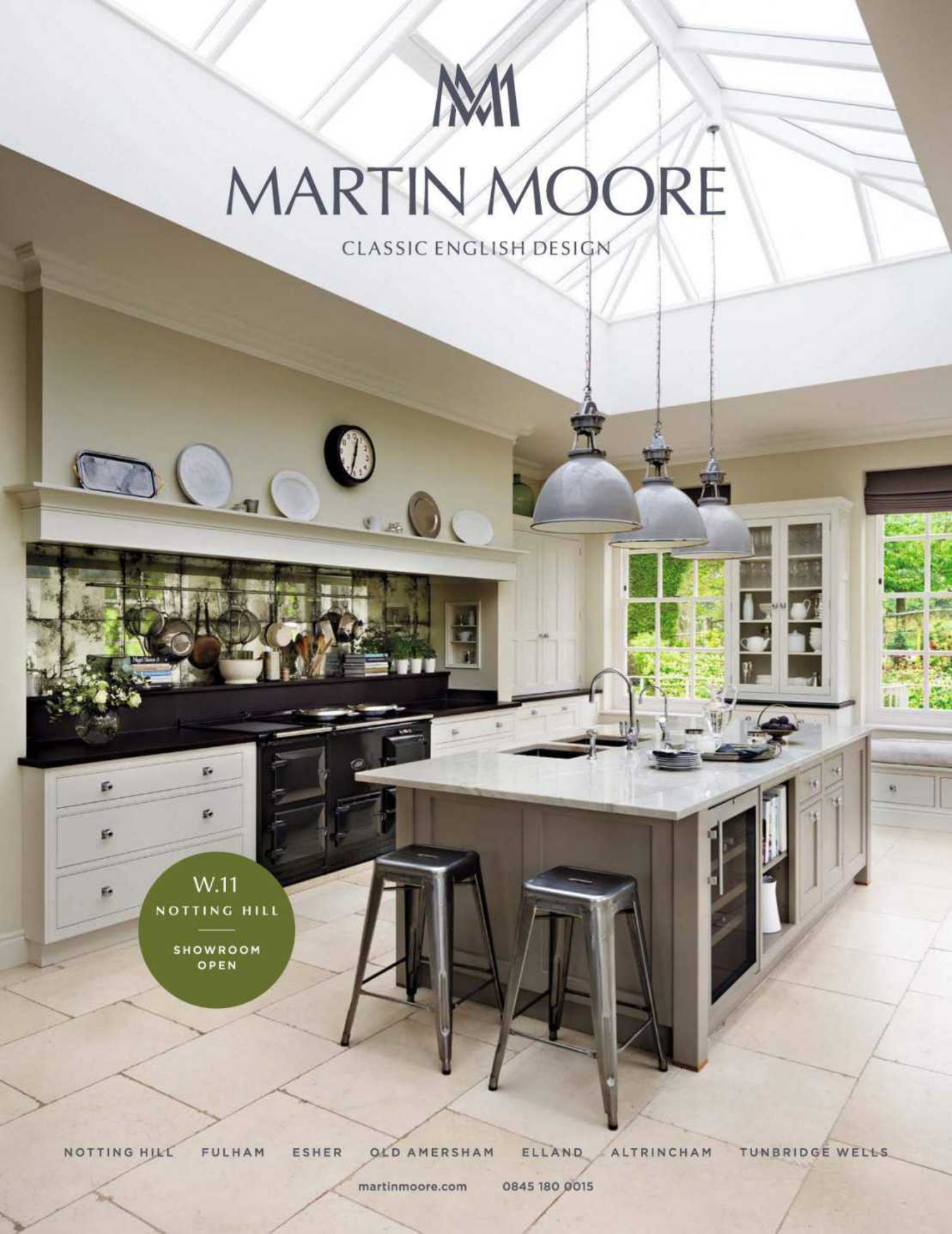
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Bird houses: **1 'Saddle Blanket'** (indigo/red), by Mulberry Home, linen, £115 a metre, from G P & J Baker. **2 'Physic'** (vanilla with red/latte/blue), linen, £94.16 a metre, from Bernard Thorp. **3 'LF1819C/7'** (indigo), viscose/linen, £53.88 a metre, from Linwood. **4 'Red Rock Black'** (old glory), wool mix, £233 a metre, from Ralph Lauren Home. **5 'Kinvara'** (indigo), by William Yeoward, linen mix, £60 a metre, from Designers Guild. **6 'Fleur Sauvage'** (rustic indigo), by Adam Bray, linen, £128 a metre, from Redloh House Fabrics. On birds, **'Savile Row'** (saphir), by Métaphores, wool/linen, £103.60 a metre, from Abbott & Boyd. *For suppliers' details, see Stockists page* □




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Opening doors

What is the best way to dress your cupboard doors? With a pretty pull, a traditional knob, or something more eye-catching? JESSICA DOYLE explores the options



perfectly POLISHED

A pair of bespoke mahogany knobs is the elegant finishing touch to these cupboard doors. Created by Alidad for a gentleman's dressing room, they complement the leathered slats and mahogany framework. John Lewis's 'Bonbon' cupboard knobs would create a similar effect; £5.95 each. *alidad.com | johnlewis.com* ▷



fine LINES

These subtle yet luxurious wardrobe doors are the work of interior designer Peter Mikic, who paired soft-grey silk panels with hand-forged handles in patinated brass. As an alternative to commissioning a metal forger, the 'Ridley' pull by Waterworks, £320.64 for the 32.5cm size, will create a similar look. *petermikic.com* *uk.waterworks.com*



leather TREASURES

Interior designer Joanna Wood recommends leather handles for 'boys' rooms, boot rooms and wardrobes', because they are hard-wearing and look great with most door finishes. Formabilio makes a knotted ribbon pull that comes in four colours and would work well on sliding doors, €39 (1), while Turnstyle Designs' stitched leather strip, available in seven finishes, is a subtle option, £322.25 (2). House of Eroju's twists can be made to order to match any interior, £60 (3). *formabilio.com* *turnstyledesigns.com* | *houseoferoju.com*



marble MARVELS

The furniture and product designer Fabien Cappello has collaborated with handle specialist Manico on the Marmo collection. It features sculptural handles in a choice of five marbles, including Carrara and Nero. *House & Garden*'s decoration director Gabby Deeming says, 'Don't be afraid to use a mix of designs. It would depress me if every drawer, cupboard and door in a room matched.' Prices start at £89. *manicohandles.com*

instant UPDATE

Ikea cabinets can be smartened up using handles from Superfront, which specialises in designs made to fit the Swedish superstore's furniture. Among the styles on offer is 'Holy Wafer' – shown here in brass, it is available in five finishes and costs £11. *superfront.com* ▷



KATE MARTIN; GREGORY DAVIES



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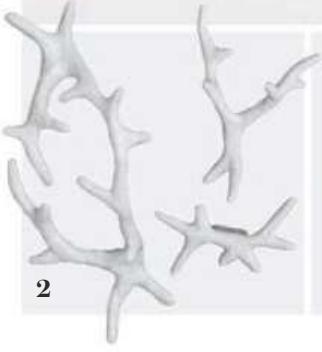
Slim bone handles are the elegant finishing touch to this art-deco-style sycamore cabinet designed by Kamini Ezralow. You'll find similar handles at Ochre, starting at £55.20. *ezralowdesign.com* | *ochre.net*



1

sea CHANGE

If you want a sense of continuity in a room, but don't want all your door pulls to be the same shape or material, stick to a theme instead. We've seen a lot of seaside motifs, including Zara Home's shell knobs, £7.99 for two (1); Ashley Hicks's 'Coral Handles', from £118 (2); and 'Sea Urchin', £2,040, by Tillmann Koehn for Saffron Interior Arts (3). *zarahome.com* | *ashleyhicks furniture.com* | *saffroninteriorarts.com*



2



3



hip to BE SQUARE

Cupboard knobs are integral to the geometric designs of the door panels in these two rooms. Pictured left, Katherine Pooley had patterns cut into these wardrobe doors, then embellished with gold leaf to match the studs. Blainey North added 'architrave' details to the cabinets pictured right, which frame the stainless-steel studs; The Handle Studio has similar for £2.99 each. *katharinepooley.com* | *blaineynorth.com* | *thehandlestudio.co.uk* ▷



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Brass 'Georgian Replica Large Lion Ring Pull', £25.70, from Jane Knapp. *janeknapp.com*



Resin cabinet knob, 'Danube', £70, from Haute Déco. *hautedeco.com*



'The Hand and Bamboo Cupboard Handle', £240 each, from Soane. *soane.co.uk*



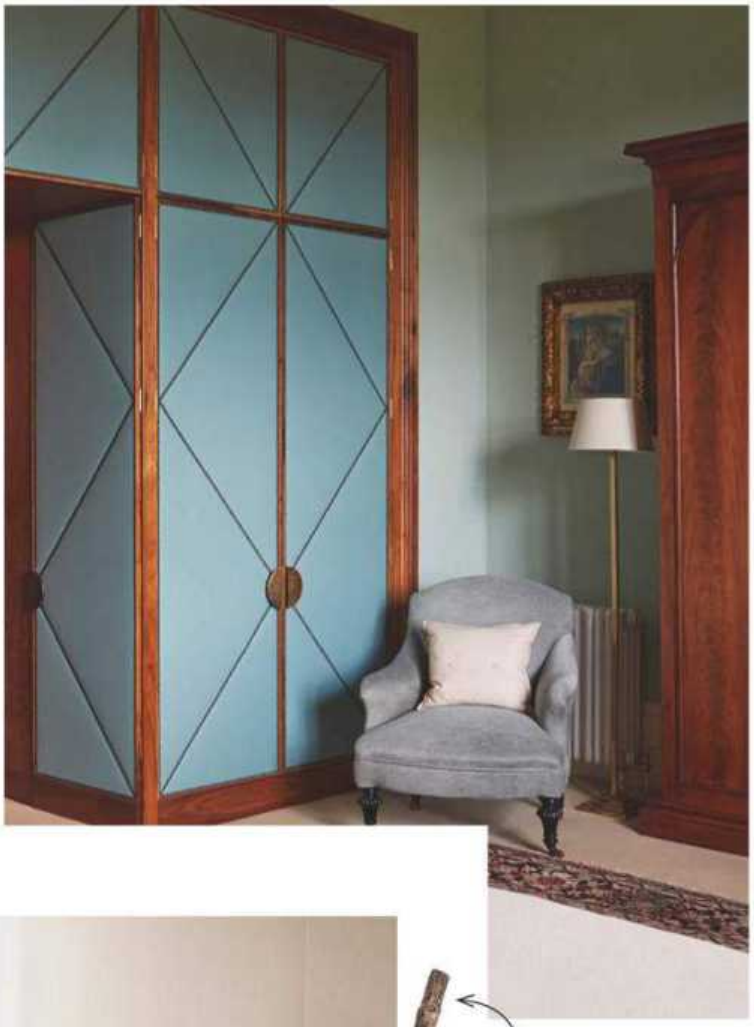
Bronze drawer pull, 'Bone', by Faye Toogood, from £672, from Izé. *ize.info*



Bronze-finish drawer pull, 'Rita', €85, from Série Rare. *serierare.com*

deco DOORS

Interior designer Emily Todhunter has given an art-deco accent to a wall of storage in one of the bedrooms at Madresfield Court in Worcestershire. She used 'ORG152' half-moon pulls from F B & J D Beardmore, in an antique brass finish (£174 each), which perfectly complement the look of the wardrobes, while their uneven cast surface provide a pleasing tactility. *todhunterearle.com beardmore.co.uk*







'Twig' is one of many decorative handles handmade in Nottingham by Philip Watts Design

branch OUT

For a decorative touch, Maria Speake of Retrouvius added branch-like handles to plain cupboards in this dressing room. They provide an interesting spiky textured detail when set against the clean expanse of the doors. This 'Twig' handle from Philip Watts Design would create a similar effect. Shown in solid bronze, it costs from £142.50. *retrouvius.com philipwattsdesign.com* ▷

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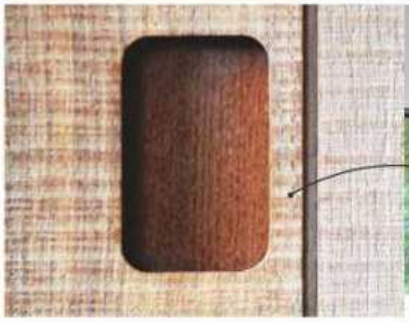
IN THE RECESSES
The matchboard panelling in this bedroom designed by Veere Greeney gives a rustic feel, but the recessed handles on the wardrobe doors keep the look modern. *veeregrenney.com*

GOING OVAL
Thomas Croft used D-Line flush pull handles in his London house. The design below from G Johns is similar and costs £9.30. *thomascroft.com | gjohns.co.uk*



a more MINIMAL APPROACH

'I hate a knob that sticks out,' says the architect Thomas Croft. 'Perhaps it's an architect thing, but I think they can disturb the space.' If you're of a similarly minimalist bent, there are options that will still allow you to open a cupboard door. Touch catches are one, although interior designer Joanna Wood warns us to 'think carefully before using them, because you'll find people start trying to pull the doors off the hinges'. Thomas suggests 'a recessed pull or a vertical shadow gap routed into the cupboard surface'.





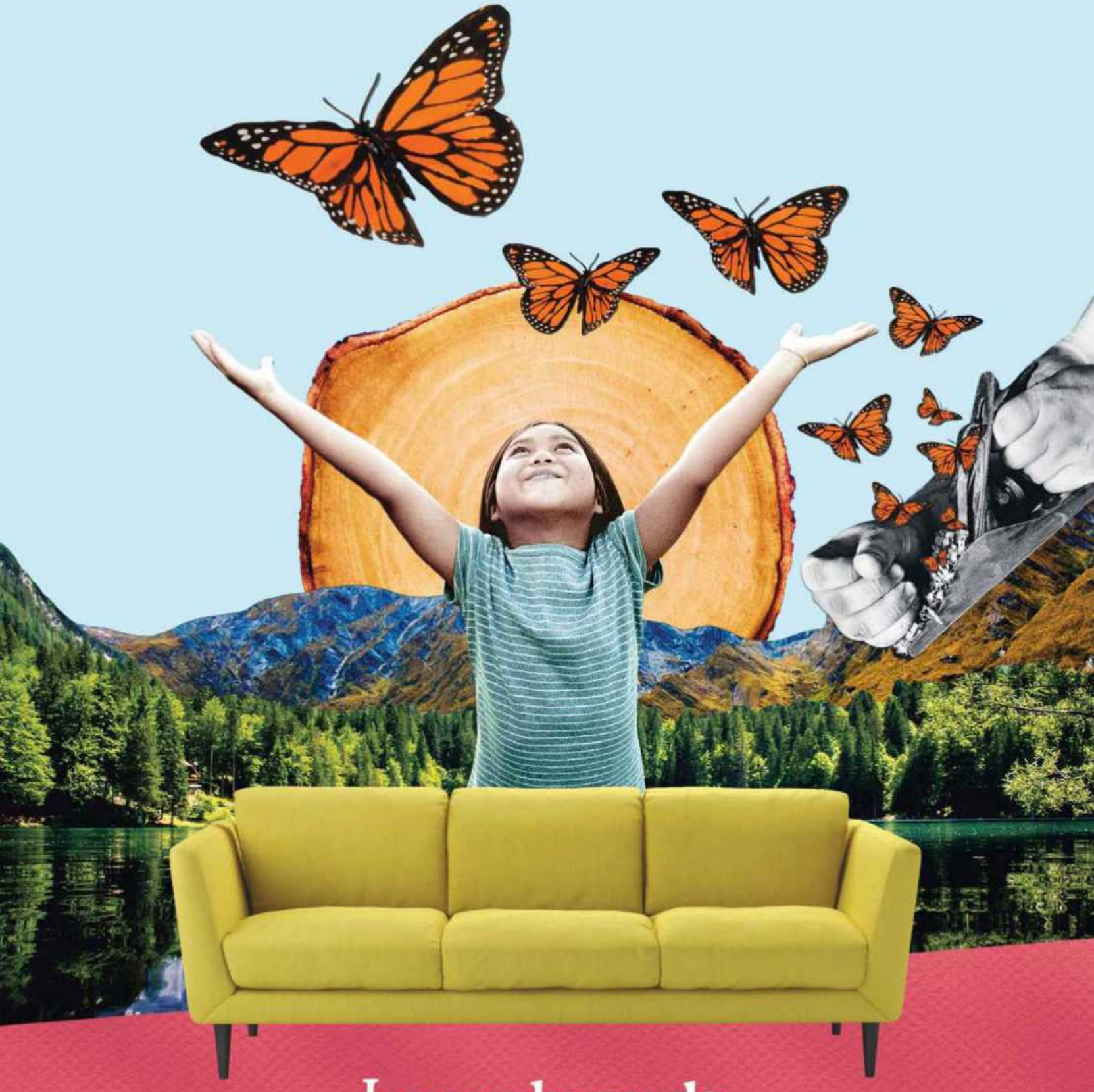
BLANK SPACE
Discreet 'handles' have been created by routing out sections of the oak slats that conceal storage in this Stirling Prize-winning studio by Stonewood Design. *stonewooddesign.co.uk*



STARRING ROLE
Rather than using knobs in this Brittany farmhouse, Modal Architecture had sections of the plywood doors cut out in a star motif to serve as handles. *modal-architecture.com* □

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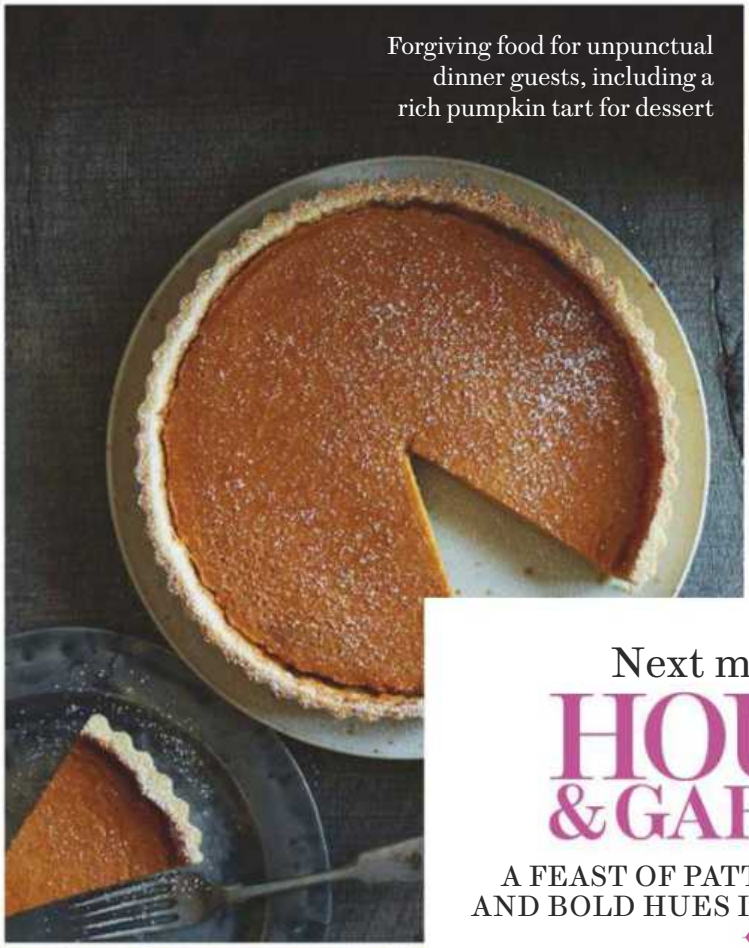
Small extending **dining table**, 'Ercol Romana', £1,121; stacking **chairs**, 'Ercol Originals', £236 each; **table lamp**, 'Cambridge', £89; **floor lamp**, 'Cambridge', £129; **rug**, **'**Mirage', £159. All from Furniture Village. *0808-1685 757; furniturevillage.co.uk*





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A sympathetically restored Chilterns farmhouse with rooms as glorious as its location

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HOUSE & GARDEN

A FEAST OF PATTERN, TEXTILES AND BOLD HUES IN A DELHI HOUSE

CELEBRATING WOOL WEEK WITH A FAIRYTALE OF BRIGHT SCHEMES



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Clare Foster visits the compact London garden of Jinny Blom



The tranquil central London flat of landscape architect Kim Wilkie

NOVEMBER ISSUE ON SALE OCTOBER 8

PHOTOGRAPHS: ALEXANDER JAMES; ANDREW MONTGOMERY; SIMON UPTON; LENNART WEIBULL; CAMILLE WALALA



Rita visits Tim Page Carpets at Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour

Rita Notes

RITA KONIG considers alternatives to cut-pile carpets, from natural weaves to felt

PHOTOGRAPH HELEN CATHCART

I have a slight aversion to fitted carpets, although, like most of the style dictates that I make for myself, I instantly find several instances in which I want to use the offending articles. I love soft carpet underfoot in bedrooms and I think runners on stairs are essential, so it's probably cut-pile carpet that I really hate. The challenge is to find an alternative, though there are times when cut-pile carpet works well – in strong colours on staircases, for example.

I love natural weaves, such as medieval matting, which is made from Norfolk rushes. It can be made to order to fit and is beautiful, though it is expensive and high maintenance – it needs to be watered quite regularly or it dries out and cracks.

There are natural alternatives that can be laid like fitted carpet – Capitol Carpets' 'Tamara Braid' (carpetsofchelsea.com) comes in seven fibres and can be self-bound or bound with linen, leather, suede or just about anything. It can also be used on staircases, which is unusual for this type of product. I have used 'Claremont' from Tim Page Carpets (timpagecarpets.com) a lot; it comes in a slew of fabulous colours and although it is made from jute, it doesn't have the flat look jute can have.

Flat weaves are another alternative to cut-pile carpets. Tim Page does an entire range of them that could be mistaken for Great Aunt Agatha's tweed skirt but are especially smart on staircases and landings. They are made to order, so you can have your carpet woven in pretty much any colour combination.

Using art felt for carpeting was popular after the Second World War – or it was with my grandmother, at least. It can be so smart with its matt finish. Hainsworth (hainsworth.co.uk) makes a 4mm-thick felt, dyed to order, that comes in 35-metre lengths. Alternatively, you can get thick craft felt from companies like Colour-Full Felt (colour-full-felt.co.uk). Its range of colours is limited, but it is perfect for stairs or small rooms. Felt is so soft underfoot that it is lovely to put in bedrooms – something Robert Kime (robertkime.com) does regularly.

Interior designer David Hicks was well known for very bold carpets; the design he did for the London drawing room of the Marquess and Marchioness of Londonderry is one of my favourites, with its large hexagon pattern. I recently used the same design, from Blenheim Carpets (blenheim-carpets.com), in a London flat with a 12-metre corridor. It looks fabulous, even if the cost was eye-watering.

There are times when you want the floor to disappear and you need a carpet that will fade into the background. But there are other times when you want it to be the main event – corridors are a good place for this. Rather like the way a wallpaper can open up the walls and give a greater sense of space, a patterned carpet in a long corridor will create a brighter and more open space.

Braquenié, owned by Pierre Frey, has been making patterned carpets for almost 200 years and its cut-pile is one of the prettiest to my mind. One of its most famous is a leopard pattern, favoured by Russian émigrés in Paris after the Revolution – and Diana Vreeland. Don't be put off by the rather Napoleonic designs on the website (pierrefrey.com). It is worth going to the showroom and having a proper look – there are terrific opportunities here to create pleasing rooms, including a foliage design that I love. And the colours are beautiful, making the possibilities endless □

RITA'S PICKS



WOOL CORD
Wool carpet, 'Grove' (lockeridge flint), £49.80 a square metre, from Blenheim Carpets



FELT
Merino wool 4mm rug runner (yellow and cherry), 130cm wide, £155 a metre, from Hainsworth



PATTERN
Wool carpet, 'Les Feuilles de Bananier' (vert), by Madeleine Castaing and Braquenié, 70cm wide, from £300 a metre, from Pierre Frey

SUDHIR PITHWA; JODY TODD

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From the makers of

PRIME OAK

Daniele Petteno

JUDITH WILSON talks to the Italian architect about his ingenious and contemporary reworking of a compact London flat



'I like to provide unique solutions,' says the architect Daniele Petteno. Fortunately for the Italian owners of this flat in west London, he also likes a challenge. The couple has two children and commissioned him to convert their recently purchased raised-ground-floor flat within an Edwardian terrace in Earls Court. The brief was to design a modern and open living space, yet retain the historical character of the building. 'It was a challenging request, as the flat is only 69 square metres,' says Daniele.

The existing flat was a rabbit warren of seven rooms, so Daniele stripped out all of the non-original partitions and joinery added by the previous owner and looked afresh at the grand 3.8-metre-high ceilings and the original sash windows. 'I wanted to reinterpret the typical Edwardian layout of one big room at the front and one at the rear, but in a modern way,' he says.

He has done so by using two intersecting L shapes: one white, one black. The black 'L' comprises storage cupboards in the kitchen and adjacent sitting room, and faces into the sitting area. The white 'L' wraps around the main bedroom at the rear, and is made up of cupboards within the bedroom and a long corridor. The corridor runs ▷

ARCHITECT

NEED *to* KNOW

Italian-born Daniele studied architecture at the Università Iuav di Venezia. Then, after a stint working for an architectural practice in Siena, he joined Sartogo Architetti Associati in Rome. He moved to London in 2006 to join Foster + Partners and worked on projects around the world. After being elected to RIBA, Daniele launched Daniele Petteno Architecture Workshop (DPAW) in 2009, where he has a team of five, and also runs a satellite office in Venice. Encouraging conversation with his clients, he enjoys creating modern spaces rather than hackneyed 'revivals' – mostly private homes, but also churches and cultural developments. *020-8617 9318; danielepetteno.com*





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP Daniele's solution for storage in the sitting room was 3.8-metre high, floor-to-ceiling bookshelves. Daniele in the entrance corridor. The kitchen is located in the black 'L' shape of the apartment

PHOTOGRAPHS **DAVIDE LOVATTI**

from the entrance to two further bedrooms, a compact bathroom and a shower room at the rear of the flat.

Daniele has played around with the height of the two 'L' shapes. The black 'L' is 2.25 metres high. 'I deliberately created the lower height for the storage unit so that both this side of the living space and the kitchen area feel cosy, especially at night,' he explains. The corridor part of the white 'L' is the full 3.8-metre ceiling height.

At the intersection of the two short sections of the 'Ls', Daniele has linked the sitting room and main bedroom with a large internal window. 'This gives both rooms an extraordinary visual depth – 11 metres front to back – and means that natural light floods in from both sides,' he says. Elegant yet practical, this effect allows the clients to keep an eye on the children wherever they are.

As one might expect from a twenty-first-century Italian-trained architect, Daniele favours a muted palette, with a sprinkling of natural materials. Walls are white, the built-in cupboards and bookshelves in the sitting room and along the corridor are made from white satin-finish spray-lacquered MDF, and the curtains are crisp white linen. By contrast, the smart black MDF cupboards in the kitchen and one half of the sitting area have a matt finish. 'We chose a waxed European oak floor from Turgon throughout,' says Daniele. 'The grey tones work well with the monochrome palette.'

So effective were Daniele's storage solutions that the clients have yet to use it all. While the black cupboards create seamless utility storage, the sitting-room bookshelves display the clients' book collection in bold blocks of colour and Daniele added floor-to-ceiling cupboards to flank the newly built corridor. The main bedroom has a raised podium, underneath which is more hidden storage.

Daniele's space-planning pièces de résistance are the ultra-modern bathroom and shower room. In the shower room, he has taken inspiration from 'compact and highly optimised' yacht bathrooms. It is designed as a wet room, with the walls and floor clad in porcelain slabs, and a built-in unit fabricated by a yacht furniture company.

Some architects leave clients to do the furnishing, but Daniele is always happy to get involved in furniture and lighting. 'We discussed options for the sitting room pendant after I returned from the Milan Furniture Fair,' he says. 'We spent two hours discussing one chandelier!'


2


3


1

Added insight

Which three words sum up your style?
Cool, elegant, practical.

Describe the ideal client.
Someone who provides a clear brief and who allows me time to develop the concept. I like clients who say 'I do mind' rather than 'I don't mind'.

What's your mantra?
Be contemporary but contextualised. When working on a modern conversion, I like to reveal and enhance some of the historical features, yet add timeless new architecture within that plan.

Share a contact from your architect address book.
Laminam (laminam.it). This Italian company produces large-scale, light, flexible ceramic surfaces for walls, bathrooms and kitchens. In historical buildings with deflected structures, materials should adapt to non-perfect geometries of the space.

1 The kitchen was designed by DPAW in conjunction with Space Cucina, with units by Schüller made to order off-site and further customised during installation. To add textural contrast within the black 'L', the MDF cabinets have a laminate finish in 'Lava Black', and the rougher textured Compac Quartz worktop is in 'Nero Ebony', supplied and installed by Space Cucina. An internal window by the hob allows views into the main bedroom.

2 'My clients had asked me to include an office space within the apartment,' says Daniele. So in the main bedroom, he designed a built-in desk to the right of the access steps, made in European oak and treated with the same wax by Turgon used on the wooden flooring. The continuity of the materials makes the room feel larger.

3 A large, internal glazed window provides views from the main bedroom into the sitting room and vice versa; a concealed Venetian blind provides privacy. The bed sits on a 60cm podium, elevating the floor level and allowing access to all the cupboards. It raises the bed to provide views through the internal window across the sitting room to the leafy square that is at the front of the house and the window that overlooks the rear of the building □

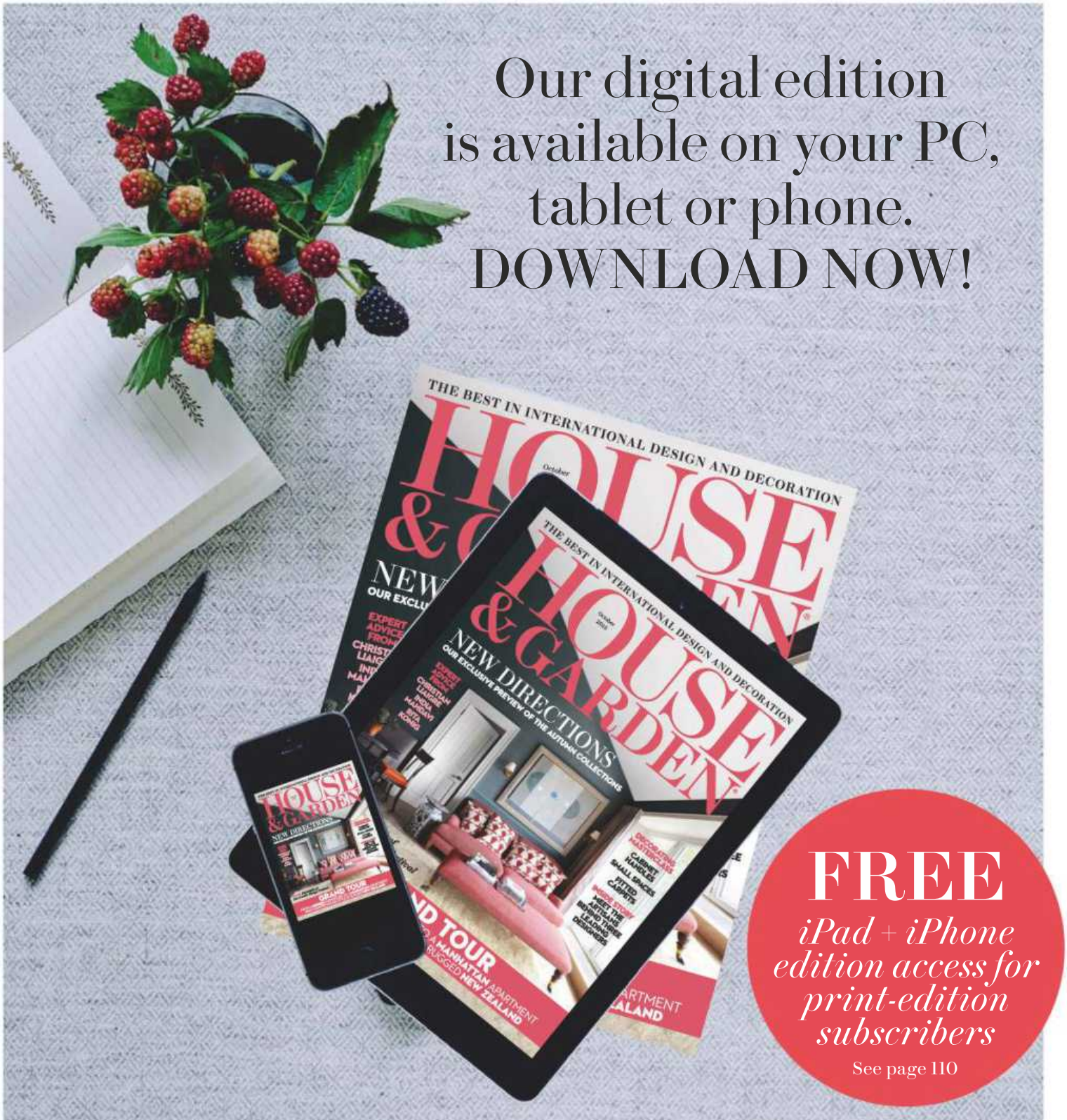


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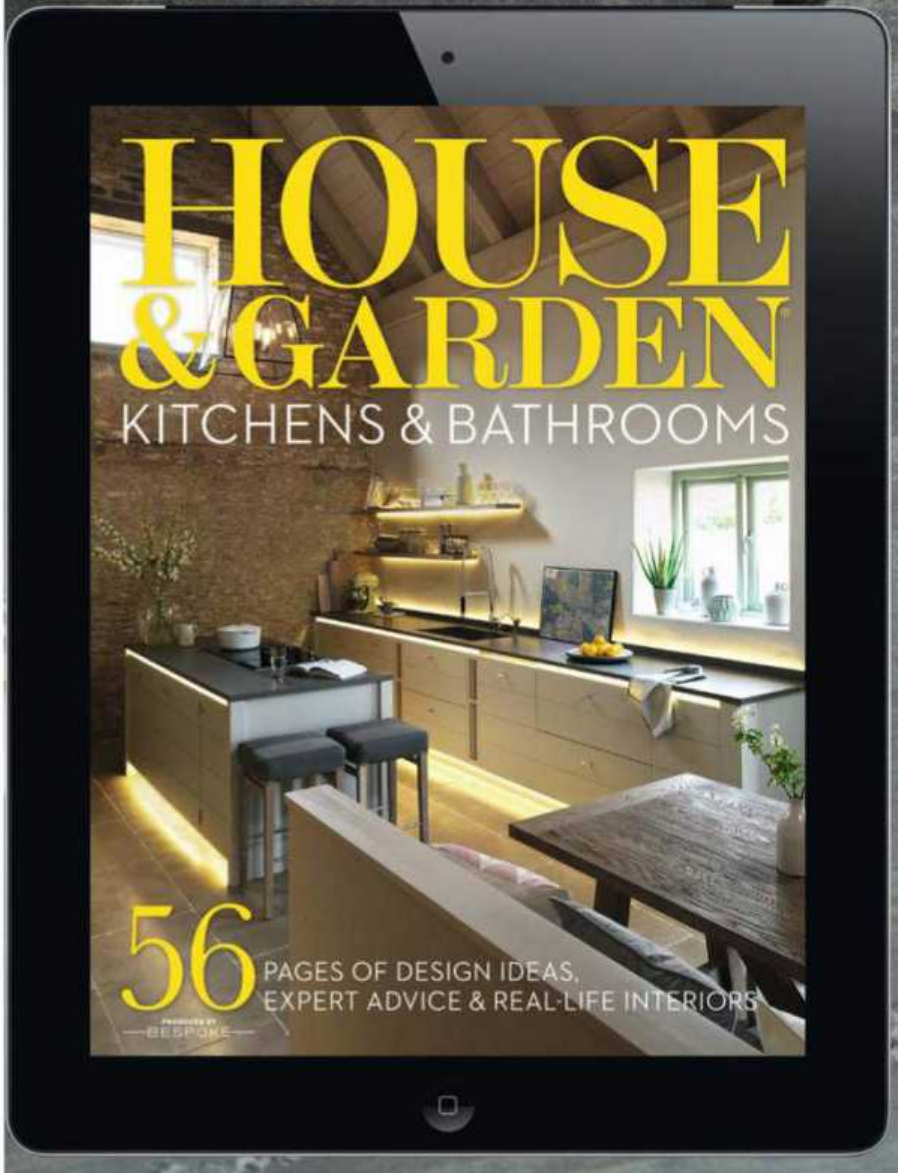
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Legacy of love

Thirty years on from a life-changing meeting with the man who was to become her husband, the Scottish-born Amelie, Duchesse de Magenta, remains at the helm of the Château de Sully in Burgundy

TEXT **CHARLOTTE FAIRBAIRN** | PHOTOGRAPHS **PAUL MASSEY**

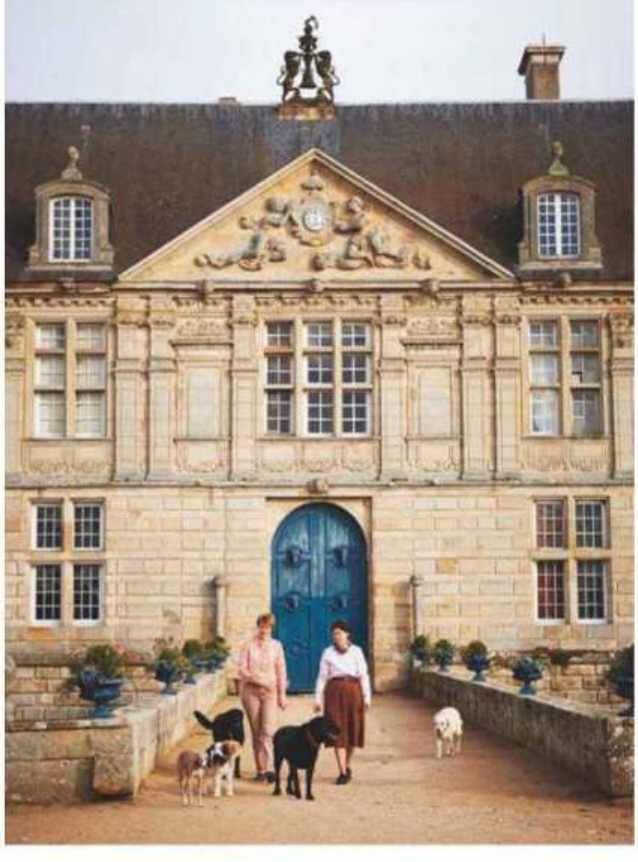


Amelie lives in one of the oldest chateaux in Burgundy, set in acres of parkland. The moat was designed so that when a person stands on the very edge of it, the whole of the Château de Sully can be seen reflected in the water

Amelie told her parents she had met the 4th Duc de Magenta, and that she would be leaving university at once to live with him in his French chateau











In 1985, 21-year-old Amelie Drummond, dressed in a crinoline gown spangled with gold, was leaning against the wall of a ballroom in a vast house in Germany when she spotted someone staring at her. Across the room, which was filled with the great and the good of Europe, was a tall and lean man wearing a daffodil-yellow tailcoat with red velvet collar and cuffs, full white tie and hunting boots – the evening wear of the Normandy hunting pack, the Rallye du Mont Malgré Tout. In his hand was a silver-topped malacca cane. Moments later, they were chatting. And a few moments after that, Amelie decided she was talking to the man she would one day marry.

Amelie was brought up in Megginch Castle in Perthshire, which was filled with whippets, dressing-up cupboards and birds of prey. Her father Humphrey Drummond was a captain in the mountain artillery and a keen falconer; her mother Cherry was a formidable woman and, as Baroness Strange, a much loved member of the House of Lords, whose work for war widows is still remembered. There were six children in the family, three of whom Cherry home-schooled. Creature comforts, it is probably fair to say, were not high on the list of priorities, but a sense of adventure and endeavour was encouraged. ▷

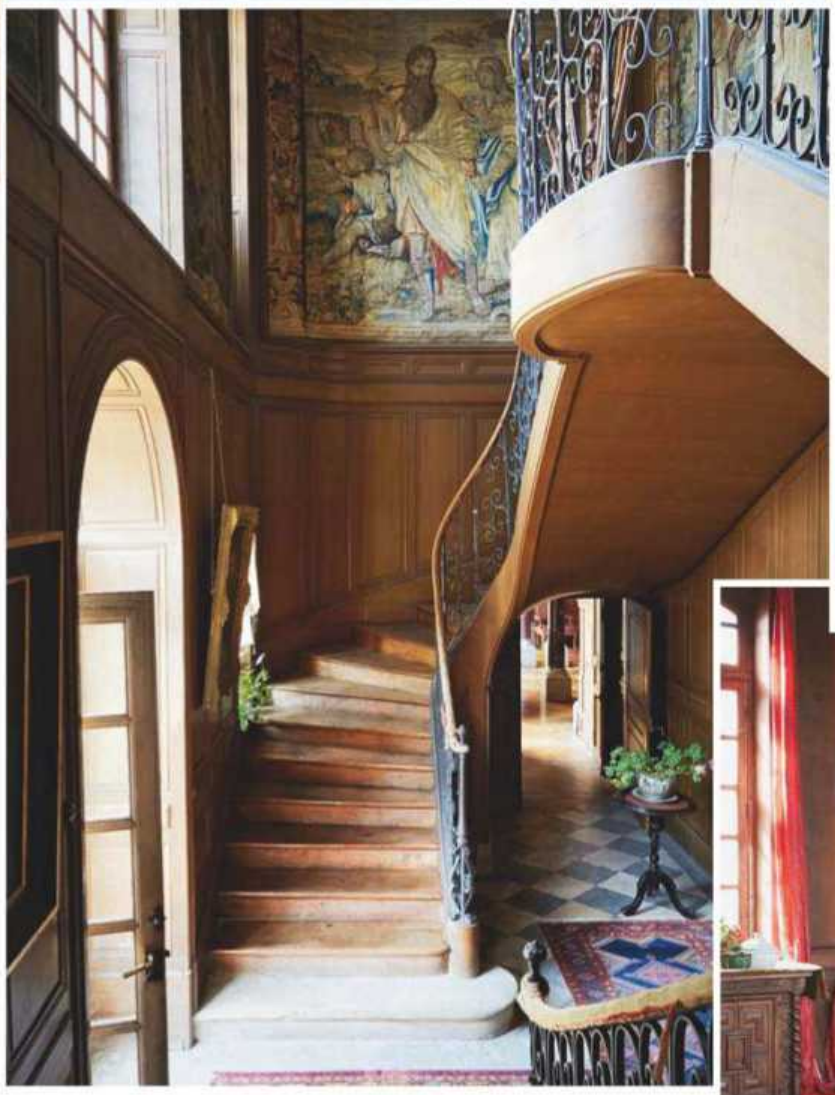






OPPOSITE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP The approach to the chateau. Amelie with her sister Charlotte. The medieval chapel. THIS PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Amelie outside the entrance; the doors date from 1803. The magnificent stone and wrought iron staircase in the entrance hall. A painting of an ancestor hangs in the chambre d'Eguilly. A rear view of Sully. Philippe and Amelie on their wedding day





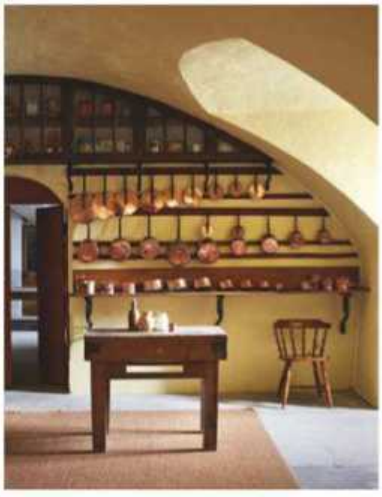
When she returned home to Megginch from the ball in Germany – following a heady week in Paris with the dashing huntsman – Amelie had news that she was desperate to share with her parents. 'They were watching a television programme about Glamis Castle and said I had to wait until it had finished before I could speak to them,' she recalls. Following an agonising wait of 40 minutes, Amelie was at last able to reveal that she had met Philippe Maurice de MacMahon, the 4th Duc de Magenta, and that she would be leaving university at once to live with him in his chateau in France.

Despite any reservations her parents had about this sudden development, they decided to support her. Within weeks, Amelie had left her studies in psychology at City of London Polytechnic, packed up her things and set off for Burgundy and the beautiful Château de Sully.

Sully is one of the largest chateaux in the region. Although its origins date back to the Roman era, the house grew into its current magnificence during the sixteenth century in the hands of the Saulx Tavannes family. Two centuries on, Sully passed to Charlotte le Belin, dame d'Eguilly, who had married an Irish doctor called John MacMahon. His ancient lineage was recognised by Louis XV and he was given the right to use the title Marquis d'Eguilly, which became Marquis de MacMahon. His grandson Maurice was granted the title Duc de Magenta as a reward for his victories on the battlefield in the mid-nineteenth century. Maurice later became the third President of the French Republic (1873–1879).

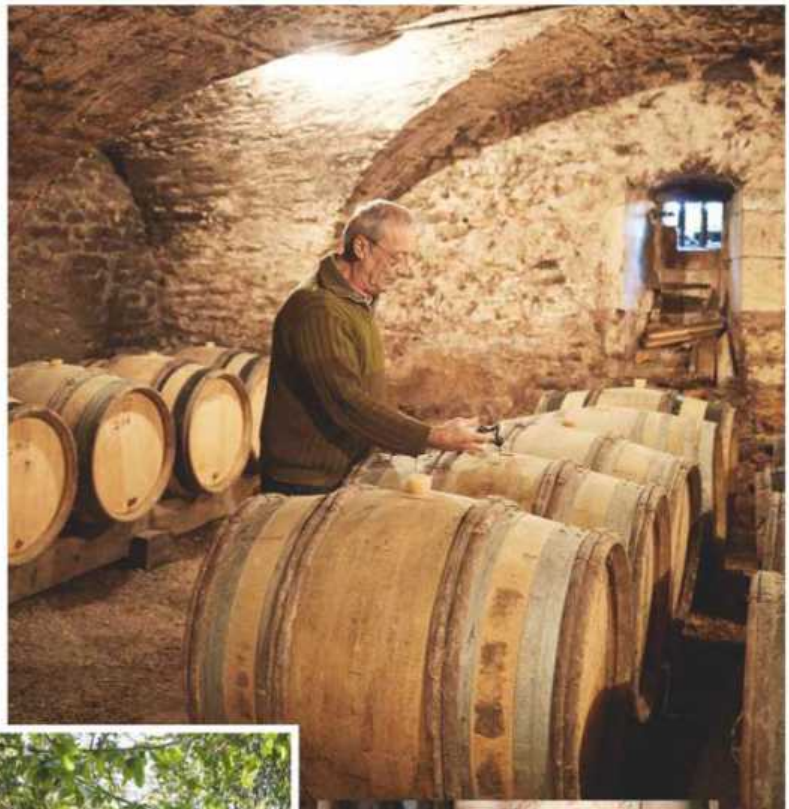
Thirty years after that meeting in the ballroom, Amelie, who became the Duchesse de Magenta when she married in 1990, remains the proud chatelaine of Sully. It was here, with its moat, countless bedrooms and wonderful state rooms, stunning courtyards and vast and varied outbuildings, that she and Philippe, who died in 2002, raised their two children. Pélagie, 25, now works for an events company in London, and Maurice, 23, the 5th Duc de Magenta and 10th Marquis de MacMahon, ▷





THIS PAGE ANTICLOCKWISE FROM TOP The decorative panelled walls and ceiling set a grand tone in the ballroom. A sixteenth-century tapestry hangs in the *petit vestibule*. Amelie and her fox terrier Gyulai in the drawing room; the plaster walls have a trompe l'œil design to make them look like wood panelling. Copper pans hang in rows in the kitchen. OPPOSITE The study features a carved stone and marble chimneypiece


RALLYE BOURGOGNE













is currently in Lyon working and studying to become an *ingénieur*. 'He's at one of France's most prestigious ecoles Arts et Métiers,' says Amelie. 'And, yes, his mother is extremely proud!' Keeping Amelie company while her children are away are her dogs. Her fox terrier, Gyulai, was named after the Hungarian commander of the Austrian troops that Maréchal Maurice de MacMahon defeated at the battle of Magenta in 1859.

In order to ensure the future of the chateau, Amelie opens it to about 25,000 visitors each year. She puts on lively tours and Hallowe'en visits for children, and for the past 12 years, she has enlisted the skills of the performer Thomas Volatier, a man with great talent for telling a story, making people laugh and generally making visitors see things differently. 'It's far better than having them trudging round with speakers in their ears, eyes glazing over at yet another list of dates or a history lesson,' she says. There are also gala evenings, celebratory dinners and all kinds of spectacles to keep the place brimming.

Then there are the chateau's premier cru vineyards, in nearby Chassagne-Montrachet and Puligny-Montrachet, which were acquired by Philippe over a period of time starting in 1967 and are the estate's principal source of income. Thanks to Philippe's foresight, Amelie attended wine school. She is deeply knowledgeable and oversees the whole process – from the grape-picking to the bottling, labelling, storing and, most importantly, selling. Income from the vines, however, is hard won. 'Since 2003, the business of wine production has become much more perilous,' Amelie says. 'We are frequently at the mercy of hailstorms, which cause huge damage to the vines, and we can no longer predict when the *vendanges* harvest will take place. Sometimes it is as early as ▷

ANTICLOCKWISE FROM TOP Vigneron Patrick Tisserand, who has worked at the domaine for over 40 years, tops up the barrels in the wine cellar. Amelie collects vegetables from the garden. A wine tasting with a visitor at the Abbaye de Morgeot in Chassagne-Montrachet. A plaque outside the abbey was carved by Patrick in 2010. Amelie assesses the vines with Arnaud Million, who documents the health of the plants. Bottles of the 2010 vintage of white burgundy ready to be sold (centre)


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CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE Amelie has tea with the owner of a local cafe. Stopping at a patisserie in Nolay. Amelie often visits this vintage market in Nolay to pick up furnishings and accessories; she passes through on her way to the vineyards



'It's like pass the parcel in reverse. I am holding Sully, this great gift, in my hands and I can't wait to pass it on'

August and other times we do not pick the grapes until October.' Annual output can vary from five to 10,000 bottles, of which 90 per cent is exported to the US and Japan.

Happily, since 2012, Amelie has been able to call on her sister Charlotte Drummond to help with the running of the estate. Charlotte – who had a long, successful career, principally working for the biotechnology firm Porton International – is quick to praise her sister. 'A couple of years ago, I went with Amelie to pick up an award she had been given by the VMF (Vieilles Maisons Françaises) for a restoration project she had overseen. She was given a standing ovation – and it was then I understood just what an inspiration she is.'

Ask Amelie herself whether she is daunted by her continued work at Sully and her answer is typically robust. 'It is like playing pass the parcel, only in reverse,' she says. 'I am holding this great gift in my hands and I can't wait to pass it on. Meanwhile, I just hope I am not the one to drop it.' Were he alive today to hear such words, Philippe de Magenta – a man hugely proud of his heritage – would surely feel thankful that at that costume ball in Germany, he went up to talk to the girl in the Georgette Heyer crinoline □

Chateau de Sully: 00-33-385 820 986; chateaudesully.com | Duchesse de Magenta wines are available in the UK through Thomas Panton Wine Merchants: 01666-503088; wineimporter.co.uk



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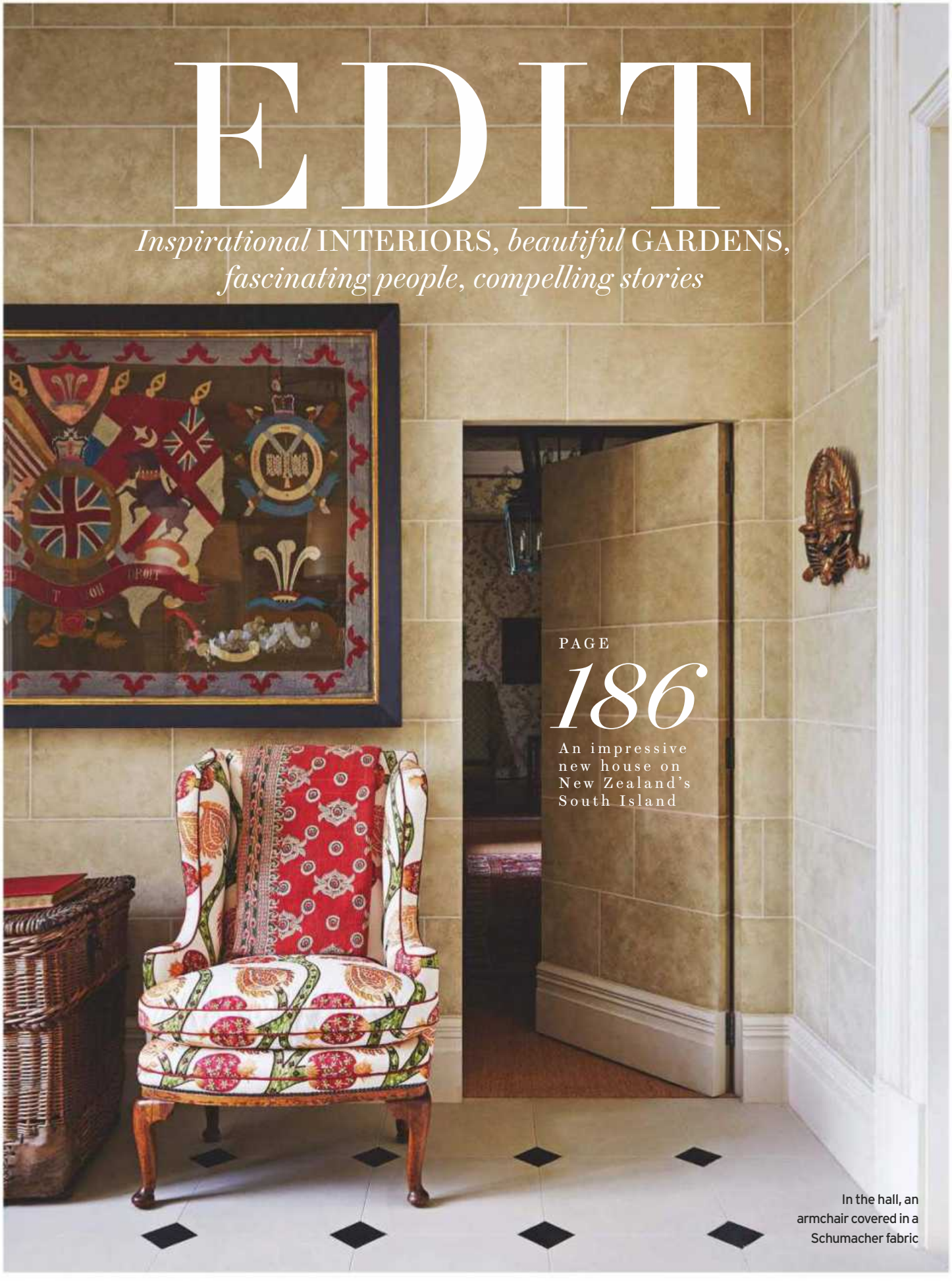
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EDIT

Inspirational INTERIORS, *beautiful* GARDENS,
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PAGE
186

An impressive new house on New Zealand's South Island

In the hall, an armchair covered in a Schumacher fabric

LUCAS ALLEN

Spectacular

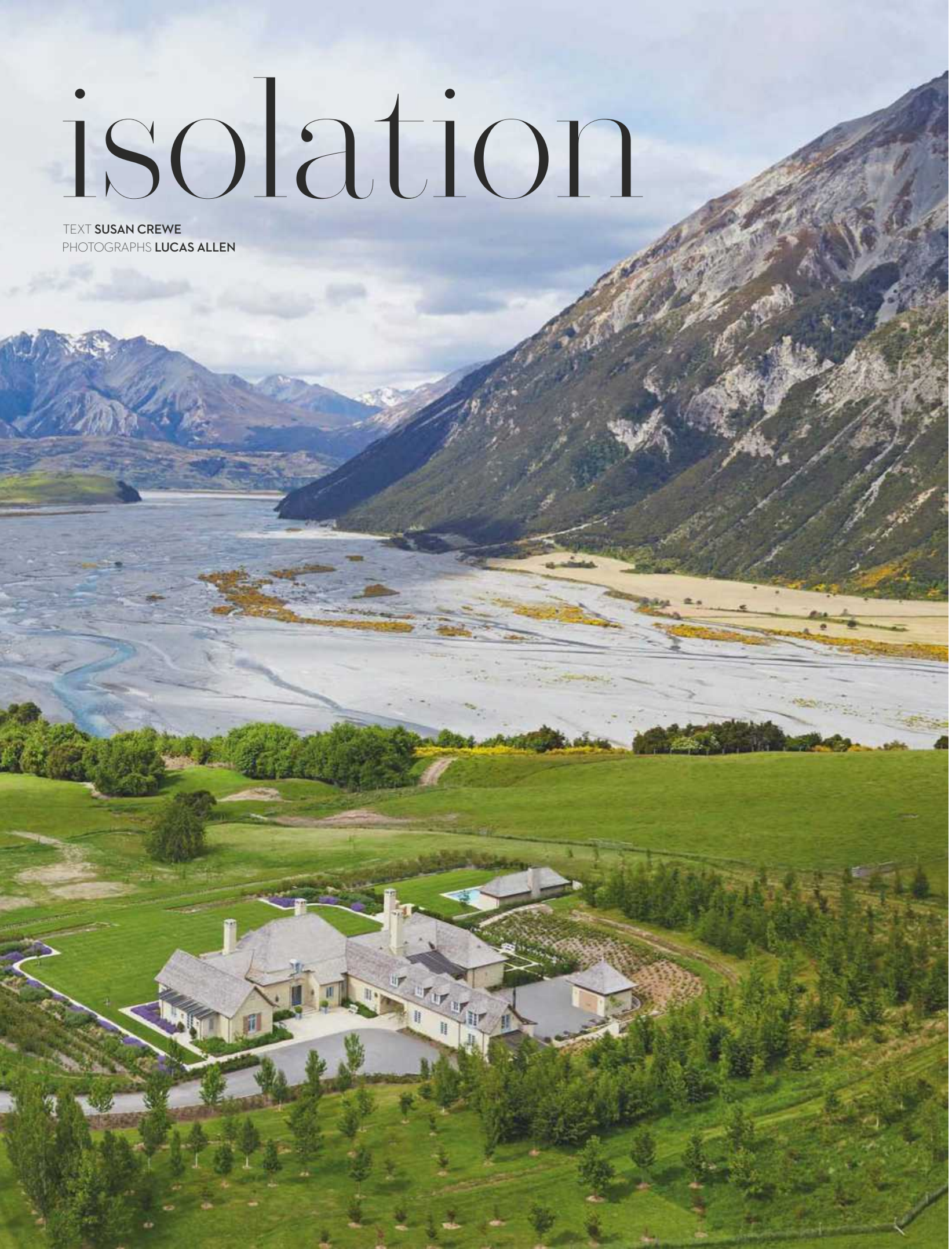
Amid the breathtaking landscape of New Zealand's South Island is Mount Algidus, a working farm covering 53,000 acres, with an expansive newbuild house every bit as impressive as the views



The farmhouse and cattle station, which supports 2,000 cattle and 2,000 sheep, are bounded by the River Wilberforce and have outstanding views of the Southern Alps

isolation

TEXT **SUSAN CREWE**
PHOTOGRAPHS **LUCAS ALLEN**




SARGENT



It is an understatement to describe Mount Algidus, a 53,000-acre cattle station on New Zealand's South Island, as isolated. It occupies the high country between two great rivers and the Southern Alps. The last few miles of the two-hour drive from Christchurch require a steady nerve and a 4x4, but even that track comes to an end at the banks of the mighty Wilberforce. To make the crossing to the station, you need to climb into a powerful tractor or perch in its trailer for the lurching journey across the pebble-strewn flats and the icy channels of the river. Upstream on the far bank is a grassy plateau with one of the most breathtaking views in the world, and it is here that the owners of the station, Jane and Jamie Smiley, have built a house. And what a house it is.

Anyone building a house from scratch needs vision and patience, doubly so if the site is remote. To build this house, all materials – from the shingles for the roof, the stone for the floors, the reclaimed oak beams and every pipe and sack of cement – had to be transported across the wide and ever-shifting river, which can be placid one day and a raging torrent the next. A good deal of courage is also required, as well as an exceptional band of designers, engineers, architects and craftsmen.

The Smileys had the required vision, patience and courage, and they also chose their collaborators with care. Jane could picture the house in her mind and Charlie Nott, a New Zealand architect, made it a reality, one that married a conventional aesthetic with modern comfort. Clive Barrington was

Feminine furniture and decorative details give the drawing room a comfortably elegant feel. The striking antler-design chandelier made by Frank Howell in Sydney is a nod to Jamie's Scottish roots, while the floral upholstery and chestnut flooring add warmth to the room. The table, which is in two halves, comes from Spain and the curtains, chosen by the interior designer Colin Orchard, were created by the London-trained, Auckland-based curtain maker Robert Andrews





the builder whose workforce lived on site for weeks at a time, occupying the quarters and cookhouse once used by the men who worked on Mount Algidus when it was a sheep station. Clive's firm is one of the most respected in New Zealand and he is rightly proud of this project, which stretched the skills and ingenuity of even his experienced team. Finally, there was the interior decorator, London-based Colin Orchard, an old friend of the Smileys who had worked on two of their previous houses in Sydney and who had been part of the team at Colefax and Fowler in the Eighties.

Jamie, a charming Scotsman, points out that Mount Algidus is very much a working station supporting 2,000 head of Aberdeen Angus cattle and a flock of 2,000 Romney cross-breed sheep. Much hard work and investment has gone into the farming enterprise since he bought the land 10 years ago. Miles of fencing and new tracks, buildings for the stock and housing for the staff all got underway before the new homestead began to take shape. Interestingly, theirs isn't the first exceptional house to be built here. According to local accounts, in the 1870s the then owners erected a 'splendid cob building with 12 rooms, many with fireplaces'. It burnt down at the beginning of the twentieth century, but apparently, it had 'a deep veranda, a vast drawing room with tall french windows looking out to the river and upstairs there were three rooms for the maids'. The inventory of the possessions the family brought with them from England included a dining table and 12 rosewood chairs, two double beds, a piano, a large hip bath and a washing machine. All the more astonishing when you consider that everything was transported by a team of heavy horses.

Jane and Colin were closely involved with the architectural and structural aspects of the twenty-first-century project, and worked in complete harmony to set the tone of the interior, going together on many buying trips to Europe to source furnishings for the rooms. In addition, Colin made no fewer than 10 trips to New Zealand, sometimes suggesting a Scottish baronial flourish here or a Soanian detail there; tutoring the decorators in the finer points of specialist paint finishes and finding a London-trained curtain maker in Auckland who'd once done work for Colefax and Fowler.

The result is a light-hearted and immensely

THIS PAGE The drawing room leads into the dining room, which forms an open-plan space with the kitchen (bottom). There, a painting by Australian artist Kate Bergin hangs above a drinks table. OPPOSITE ANTICLOCKWISE FROM TOP A table bought at auction in Melbourne and a rug from Robert Stephenson are the centrepieces of the dining room, which leads into the library (bottom left). Wallpaper from Brunschwig & Fils lines a powder room near the entrance













comfortable take on the English country-house look. All of the principal rooms and bedrooms are on the ground floor, where the generous proportions and high ceilings lend them gravitas. The kitchen and dining room are combined and feel like the core of the house, and this space is flanked on one side by an elegant drawing room and on the other by a more intimate library. Four bedrooms, bathrooms and dressing rooms extend out from these central living spaces and a river-facing loggia with a view of snow-capped mountains is the perfect place for warm-weather dining. Many of these rooms are double height, though there is a first floor above a wing at the back of the house, which houses more bedrooms, bathrooms and offices.

At this elevation in New Zealand, opportunities to use the loggia, swim in the pool and stroll in the box-bordered parterre are limited to a few summer months. At other times, when fog, horizontal rain, bone-chilling wind or the boiling, furious Wilberforce conspire to make staying indoors a more tempting option, the house is a haven. With open log fires in all the principal rooms, including the bedrooms, rich and textured fabrics, vibrant rugs and warm-hued chestnut or French oak floorboards, the interiors are enveloping and welcoming. Jane has collected charming decorative objects such as needlework cushions, porcelain and painted furniture, which, alongside a great number of books and pictures, ensure that the house feels full and enjoyably lived-in. Both Smileys are also interested in buying the work of contemporary artists such as Kate Bergin, whose rather surreal painting of animals hangs above the drinks tray in the dining area.

Although some of the smaller and more fragile objects were brought in by helicopter – and indeed some visitors and, on occasion, the Smileys themselves make the trip this way – the weather doesn't always allow this form of transport. Life at Mount Algidus is ruled by the condition of the river, which makes the creation of this house a truly remarkable achievement by all involved □

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OPPOSITE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP The blue walls of the main bedroom pick up the upholstery on the Dudgeon sofa and Colefax and Fowler fabric used for the curtains. A spare room has curtains in a Manuel Canovas fabric and a quilted, embroidered bed cover from Chelsea Textiles. A blind in Colefax and Fowler's 'Snow Tree' is one of many decorative touches in a bathroom. OPPOSITE FROM TOP The loggia features lanterns from Vaughan. A tractor transports Clive and Charlie across the river



THIS PAGE In the library, a Fifties bookcase by Franco Albini is set against a custom sgraffito and hand-painted mural on brass leaf, which depicts a detail on the façade of the Doge's Palace in Venice. OPPOSITE A Forties French smoked glass and faux-tortoiseshell screen in the main foyer picks up the brass on the wall sconce by the door and the pedestal table, both by Giò Ponti





HIGH DRAMA

TEXT **LUCIE YOUNG** | PHOTOGRAPHS **RICHARD POWERS**

With two of the owner's favourite quotations as the only starting point, the decoration of this Manhattan apartment was never going to be an ordinary project for designer Jim Luigs, who has masterminded a spectacular space filled with art and creativity





OPPOSITE The gold accents continue in the sitting room, where a wall is painted with a quotation from John Ruskin's *The Stones of Venice*; the mahogany and brass cabinet is by André Sornay. THIS PAGE FROM TOP A sofa by Marco Zanuso sits below the coffered verre églomisé ceiling in the television room. The hall to the library features a mural by Bill Borman of DesignRed, with images taken from the Sixies erotic comic *Valentina*. A hallway lined with a Fortuny fabric leads from the sitting room to the main bedroom







This Manhattan apartment features some extraordinary murals inspired by the Doge's Palace in Venice and quotations from the owner's favourite writers, including Ruskin, Sophocles, Virgil and Gibbon. There are images based on everything from his favourite Tintoretto to a Sixties Italian erotic comic-book series. The interior is like a grand tour of Europe. No idea is too outlandish and no surface is left untouched. Call it the pocket palace.

The 195-square-metre apartment is situated in one of Manhattan's earliest high rises built in 1906. It looks down over Gramercy Park, the city's most desirable private-garden square, surrounded by town houses that were home to the high society in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

When the project began in 2008, the owner was renting the apartment and simply wanted a 'fluff job', recalls the designer Jim Luigs, who is also a successful playwright, lyricist and theatre director. The initial idea was to create an inviting entertaining space, although the project got off to a slow start. It may have been a little tricky knowing how to respond to a client who brought to the initial meeting just his two favourite quotations: one from *Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles and one from Ruskin. 'It took us a while to learn how to communicate with each other,' says Jim.

The sitting and dining rooms were the







first to be completed, and the interior took flight when the owner picked out an André Sornay cabinet for the sitting room. Its brass detail became a motif throughout the apartment. The intricate hand-sculpted design of an Osvaldo Borsani geometric wood console table inspired a wall of kitchen cupboards.

When all the apartments within the building were put up for sale two years later, Jim's client bought his and expanded the brief. While many of his neighbours chose to reconfigure their apartments to create large entertaining spaces overlooking the park, with all the private rooms in the rear, he decided to keep the original, gently unfolding floor plan. Rooms fan out from a series of three little foyers that open up one after the other in the core of the apartment. To one side, overlooking the lush square, are the main sitting room, the voluptuous main bedroom suite with three bay windows, and a bijou television room. And on the other side, facing the East River, are a newly expanded eat-in kitchen, a dining room and the library.

'We started going hog wild in the library,' says Jim, explaining how the decorating process picked up steam. The room started out as a 'nice carpeted bedroom with conventional furnishings', then quickly morphed into a library with nearly 40 coats of ultramarine lacquer on the walls. Finally, says Jim, 'we jumped off a cliff'. The current library was inspired by a Ruskin watercolour of the Doge's Palace. Decorative artist Bill Borman of DesignRed translated this small vignette into a vast, shimmering mural. 'We wanted it to look like those old golden orotone photographs,' he says. To this end, he used black oil paint over brass leaf.

Bill spent four-and-a-half years working on various murals and decorative details in the apartment. 'It was unlike anything I've ever done before, and involved a level of fearlessness,' he says One minute he was creating the black and white mural inspired by *Valentina*, an erotic Sixties Italian comic-book series, using only one pot of black paint; the next he was experimenting with ways to marblise sheets of glass in order to create the smoky walls in the main foyer, which echo the French Forties mercury glass screen.

Like his hero Ruskin, the owner found that 'if you let artists do projects they enjoy, they will surpass themselves; the epic amount of detail in this apartment can only happen if you are on a slow burn'. So waiting nearly a year for the bedroom ceiling to cure before it could be gilded was no problem. This room, with its scalloped mahogany walls, was inspired by an extraordinary art deco day suite created in the Quai D'Orsay, Paris, in 1938, for a royal visit by King George VI and his wife Elizabeth. The eye-catching fish pattern on the floor of the granite en suite bathroom is an expansion of a tiny fragment of a first-century mosaic in Pompeii.

This epic five-year design project, which involved nearly 50 craftspeople, including stone masons, terrazzo makers, mosaic artists and furniture restorers, concluded with the redecoration of the television room, which the owner describes as 'our greatest hits'. The hand-painted ceiling has motifs from the Basilica di San Marco in Venice, and the carved walls are 'ebonised to look like a Venetian gondola' and painted with architectural details from the Doge's Palace. 'It could easily have looked like a pizza parlour,' says the owner with a laugh. 'What makes the difference is holding back.' The pattern shimmers like a mirage instead of punching you in the eye.

Now that this apartment is complete, the designer and owner have their eyes on a new sight: the renovation of a penthouse in the same building. 'I am driving hard for Finland,' says Jim, talking about the themes for the interior. But the owner is taking a more languorous approach: 'I am going into a long period of scholarship and dreaming' □

Jim Luigs Designs: jimluigsdesigns.com
DesignRed: 00-1-646 673 0213; designredstudio.com

THIS PAGE FROM TOP
A dining room wall is painted with a quote from *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. The dark, open-plan kitchen features slabs of terrazzo on the walls and worktops; Jim Luigs designed the bar stools. Sea creatures appear in the main bathroom on mosaic tiles by Sicis. OPPOSITE The main bedroom has curved mahogany walls and a gold-leaf ceiling with a Fontana Arte light fixture



TEXT **DAISY BRIDGEWATER** | PHOTOGRAPHS **NGOC MINH NGO**
LOCATIONS EDITOR **LIZ ELLIOT**

WHERE THE HEART IS

When interior designer Harriet Anstruther took possession of her run-down Sussex farmhouse, she put her eclectic mark on it, while keeping its original features





BOTH PAGES The dining room's original brick-and-stone flooring and low, hand-sawn timber beams set the tone for Harriet's display of found objects, including a stuffed owl in a case, feathers and a cowskin bought on the side of the road in the South of France. The table is made by Norfolk-based furniture maker Tim Sillis

Harriet Anstruther is perched on the arm of a rattan chair in her garden. Conspiratorial, articulate, and with a gravelly laugh that makes her instantly likeable, the designer is making sure that I understand her particular version of luxury before I set foot in her Sussex farmhouse. 'Here is absolutely where the heart is,' she tells me, gesturing towards the wonky, flint-clad rear of her timber-framed house, with its catslide roof and stamp-size windows. 'There is nothing designer-y about it. The house is mostly filled with junk, but it is the most enormous luxury to escape from London to a place that doesn't have to serve multiple purposes.' Harriet is married to photographer Henry Bourne and has a 22-year-old daughter, Celestia. This is where they come to decompress as a family. 'As a house, it doesn't have to work very hard,' she says.

During the week, Harriet runs a successful, multidisciplinary design studio, working closely with clients to create playful, bold and glamorous interiors, from Mayfair town houses to country manors. She originally studied fine art, so her knowledge and appreciation of the art world provides her with boundless inspiration. But it's Harriet's more recent studies in interior architecture at the Inchbald School of Design that underpin her designs with an understanding of how a building must work and how it would have worked in the past. 'I am always curious about a building's history: not just its architectural past, but also who lived there, what its story is,' she explains. 'I think about what I sense when I first walk into a space, and what it would look like with nothing in it, just the light. That is my starting point.'

In Sussex, Harriet's starting point was a house so inexorably anchored in its rural past that she had to work in sympathy with it, quietly rewiring, re-plumbing and installing central heating, while doing very little to the original layout and structure. 'You really have to listen to a house like this,' she tells me as we cross the stone threshold, worn smooth by the centuries of stomping feet, through the back door and into the scullery, which connects to the kitchen. 'There are no straight lines here, and there is nothing that doesn't have a hole or a chip or a bird in it. But if you spent your time worrying about spiders and symmetry, you wouldn't live here.'

Having taken possession of the house 18 years ago – it was bought for her by her father on the day she was born and since then rented to a farmer – Harriet set about removing carpet tiles, dead cats and decades of dirt to reveal the sort of domestic historical details that fill her with delight. There are the original brick-and-stone floors downstairs, which deepen in colour when the ground beneath them is wet; the majestic, hand-sawn oak beams are complete with makers' marks and original lime wash; and there are pagan nooks hidden in every chimneypiece, once filled with talismans to ward off evil spirits. 'There are so many stories here,' she says, running

THIS PAGE The back of the farmhouse. OPPOSITE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT The scullery is accessed through the kitchen. Harriet ripped up the existing carpet tiles to expose the York stone flooring in the kitchen; the units are from Habitat (top right). A half-height wall was put in to create an informal 'snug' (also centre left). The sitting room has a cowskin ottoman from George Smith (bottom row). The front entrance (centre)
























SALOON







her hands over a pleasingly lumpy wattle-and-daub wall.

Stripped back, cleaned and lime-washed throughout, the interior has become a sorting house for Harriet's large collection of inherited furniture and flea-market finds. Animal pelts, as likely to have been picked up on the way back from the beach in the South of France as on the Portobello Road, add warmth to the ground floor living areas, including the kitchen, dining room and more formal sitting room. Upstairs, her grandmother's shawl makes the bed in a spare room especially cosy, while a butter churn serves as a side table in the main bathroom. 'As I explained, it is mostly junk,' she says with a laugh. But I'm afraid I have to disagree. Harriet describes her work as a process of 'curating, editing and suggesting' for her clients, and she has shown that the same processes are successfully at work here in her own home. Antlers, found in neighbouring woods, are displayed like treasures on a sideboard in the sitting room. A stuffed owl peers like an installation from its glass case in the dining room, surrounded by deserted nests from the hedgerows, its glass eyes lighting on the black cock feathers and beads that hang jauntily from the lamps. Carefully sorted and placed against the calming white and greys of lime-washed brick and timber, this is junk at its most delectable, and the effect is one of glorious, precious harmony.

So slight are Harriet's interventions here that they are almost impossible to spot. Bar a new bathroom on the second floor, and a half-height wall built to define a snug area around the fire adjacent to the dining room, her story is simply one of exposing – and revelling in – the house's past. 'Its skeleton is so strong and powerful, you can't fight it,' she remarks. As a second home, it is unencumbered by the daily, practical demands of a family. There is little or no storage here and there is only charm, not inconvenience, in the low beams and sloping, uneven floorboards. 'And that is where the real luxury lies,' Harriet grins □

Harriet Anstruther Studio: 020-7584 4776; harrietanstruther.com

OPPOSITE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT A spare room. Celestia's bedroom on the second floor. A first-floor bedroom. Linen muslin curtains screen off the bed from the dressing area in the main bedroom (also centre). The rear of a converted bothy. The new bathroom. The Georgian front of the house. Harriet's grandmother's books line the landing to a spare room. THIS PAGE Framed pictures give the main bathroom a lived-in feel



Texture & tone

Briefed to steer clear of white and leather, Adam Bray and his team set about transforming this London flat – created from two one-bedroom flats joined together – with rich colour, luxurious fabrics and attention to detail



TEXT **ELFREDA POWNALL**
PHOTOGRAPHS **JAKE CURTIS**
LOCATIONS EDITOR **LIZ ELLIOT**



A silk wallcovering from de Gournay provides a dark background in the sitting room, enlivened by a pair of Twenties French dining chairs in their original orange silk velvet, and the sofa and ottoman in contrasting Le Manach 'Toile de Tours' fabric from Claremont. The door leads to the kitchen



The American businessman was pretty pleased. He loves visiting London and that very day he had completed on the purchase of a one-bedroom flat on the top floor of a house in central London. But his satisfaction was short-lived. As he opened the front door of his new flat, an estate agent emerged from the one next door, which was also for sale. In a trice he knew that one bedroom was not enough. He had to buy the other flat, too.

The purchase was the easy bit. The negotiations for combining the two flats took a tortuous two years of discussions with the Grosvenor Estate, which owns the square the property sits on.

Luckily, he had a strong team on his side: the interior designer Adam Bray and the architect Eugene Hanniffy of Garnham Wright Associates. With the building permissions finally approved, their task was to turn the warren of small rooms, which would have been servants' bedrooms when the house was inhabited by one family, into an agreeable three-bedroom home from home.

'The owner had very strong views on what he did not want,' says Adam. 'In particular, no white and no leather. So we approached the first meeting to show him the fabric choices and the design for the new layout with a certain trepidation.' But the team had got it right. 'Hardly anything changed from that initial concept meeting to the final installation,' he says. The designers Nick and Joanna Plant, who frequently collaborate with Adam, worked with him on the schemes for this flat, too.

Different shades of a greenish blue on the walls provide a unifying theme throughout the flat. In the open-plan sitting room, it appears in a silk wallpaper by de Gournay, which makes a foil for the raspberry Le Manach 'Toile de Tours' upholstery of the sofa and ottoman. Placed around the tiny dining table nearby, a pair of Twenties French ebonised and gilded chairs, in their original orange silk velvet upholstery, also sing out against this background. The plain oak floor and the rough texture of the Beni Ourain Moroccan rug provide contrasts in texture to the silk and gilding. 'Keep the background basics simple,' says Adam.

One of a pair of eighteenth-century Chinese 'moon-gazing' stools – traditionally glowing coal would be put under to keep the seat warm while contemplating the moon – stands beside the sofa, its vivid blue picked up on the opposite wall in the surround of a Fifties Italian mirror, which is above a marble chimneypiece designed for this space. The owner's late-nineteenth-century wooden

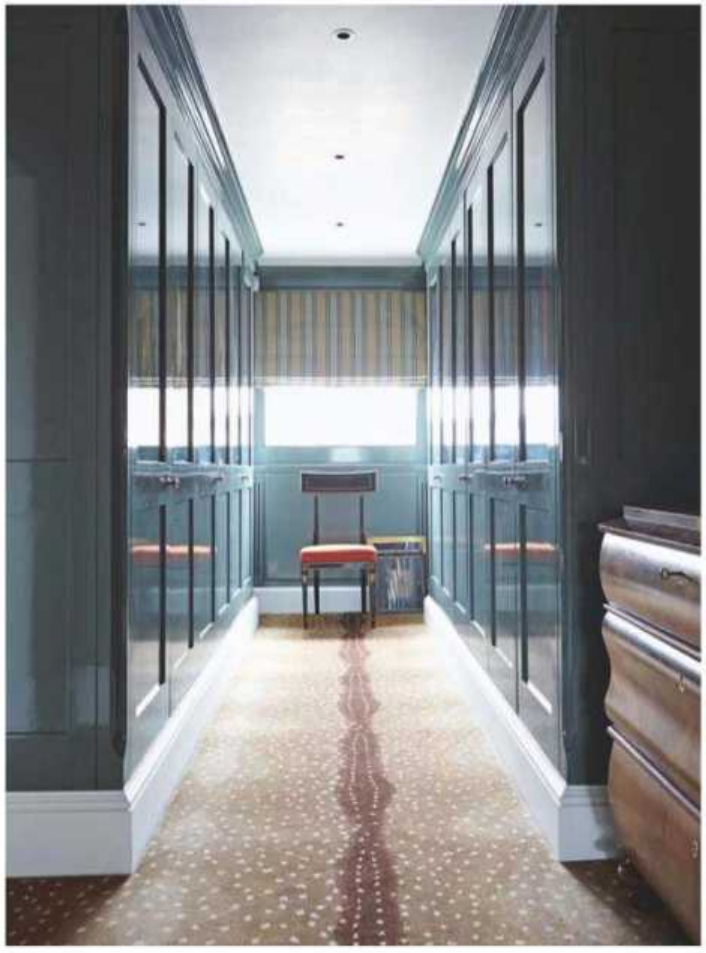
THIS PAGE Symmetry characterises the sitting room, where the owner's nineteenth-century armchairs and a pair of custom console tables from Soane are centred around a Fifties Italian mirror from Tarquin Bilgen and a marble chimneypiece – a new addition. OPPOSITE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP The television room across the hall is lined with distressed mirror glass, reflecting the large banquette sofa designed by Nick Plant and upholstered in Adam's 'Greville' mohair velvet. The kitchen units designed by Eugene are painted in 'Raven' by Papers and Paints, which contrasts with the light oak flooring. Seen from the corridor, the aubergine-lacquered guest bathroom has Barber & Wilson taps and a decorative door handle from Collier Webb











THIS PAGE At the end of the main corridor is the dressing room, which has a carpet from Capitol Carpets of Chelsea designed to look like antelope hide. There facing fitted wardrobes in a gloss mixed by Adam continue the blue-green theme of the flat. OPPOSITE Adam chose an earthy palette for the main bedroom: the striped silk used for the headboard and curtains is 'Charles X' from Claremont, and the jute carpet is 'Compass' from Tim Page

armchairs are covered in a woollen fabric.

The main corridor leads from the sitting room to the dressing room, where the two facing walls of fitted cupboards continue the blue-green theme, this time in a gloss finish. 'I love gloss walls – they really do bounce the light about,' says Adam. 'But it is rare to get a client who will agree to them.' The carpet in here, designed to look like antelope hide, is from Capitol Carpets of Chelsea. The Italian walnut chest of drawers, tortoiseshell clock and mirror are all from the owner's collection.

Tortoiseshell also makes an appearance in the sumptuous guest shower and cloakroom at the end of the corridor. A 'scarlet' tortoiseshell triptych mirror hangs on sultry aubergine-lacquered walls. 'We did it the proper way, with 10 coats,' says Adam. The richness and depth of this finish, the beautiful lighting, and the floors and trim in Calacatta marble, make this tiny space a dream of luxury. There is more of the same Calacatta marble in the main bathroom next door, combined with simple panelled walls, a silver-framed wall of mirror above the bath, and a pair of basin mirrors framed in dark green glass, designed by the team, but inspired by a vintage Italian original.

Blue-green gloss reappears in the main bedroom, which adjoins this space, though this time in a muddier version. Here, the striped silk curtains and headboard look matt in contrast, as does thick jute carpet in a gutsy herringbone. A pop of vivid green from a lacquer bedside table and an elegant plaster lamp with vellum shade are all reflected in a Maison Jansen-style mirror. Eugene has made a virtue of the strange voids and beams of the ceiling, with an elegant coffered solution which, as Adam puts it, 'gives the room a bit of topspin'.

The tiny, mirrored television room, which is across the hall from the sitting room, is much more vivid. A deep banquette sofa in Adam's own purple 'Greville' mohair velvet is ideal for lounging on while watching. There is however no lounging in the kitchen, where a baby La Cornue cooker, with a copper and steel trim, means business. A giant crane-like travelator conveyed all the furniture up to the flat in just half a day – from the classical columns and stucco of the pavement to this beautiful eyrie, which looks out over the treetops of the square's lovely gardens □

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Open to ideas

The owners' love of Russian art and mid-century furniture helped design firm Waldo Works personalise the interior of this west London house, previously transformed from six flats

TEXT **DOMINIC LUTYENS** | PHOTOGRAPHS **TOM MANNION**



BOTH PAGES The open-plan sitting and dining room is full of the mid-century modern furniture that Georgy and Maria are passionate about, including the 'Serpentine' sofa by Vladimir Kagan and a 'TRG' revolving coffee table by Willy Rizzo, combined with modern designs like the 'Cloud' pendant light by Molo above the dining table

Georgy Djaparidze and Maria Kondrashova were on a quest to find a new, modern family home with plenty of entertaining space, which, in 2011, led them to this five-storey house in Notting Hill. Dating from the 1860s, the house had been radically redesigned and modernised in 2008 for its previous owners by architects Michaelis Boyd. 'The property had been divided into six flats,' recalls Tim Boyd. 'We opened up the space, made its rooms flow better, brought in more light and installed a modern staircase that connected each of the levels.'

That said, Georgy, an investment manager, and Maria, who works for an events and PR company, wanted to make some of their own structural changes and decided it made sense to ask Michaelis Boyd to undertake this work, too. A first-floor sitting room was converted into the main bedroom, a dressing room and bathroom, and a steam room on the second floor became another bathroom.

While the house's interior was now pleasingly clean-lined, Georgy and Maria, who have a baby daughter, Ava Sophia, felt it needed more character. Enter interior design firm Waldo Works. 'When we first saw the house, it felt sterile – as empty, converted houses can do,' says Tom Bartlett, the founder of Waldo Works. 'The architecture was impressive, but we wanted Georgy and Maria to move into a house that reflected their personalities. The biggest challenge in an open-plan conversion is how to soften it, set moods and choose paint colours as the spaces merge.' The couple had sharply divergent tastes. 'Georgy didn't want curtains anywhere,' recalls Tom. 'Maria's brief was for a softer, more feminine look. We spent a long time choosing a precise shade of blush for her bathroom.'

Georgy and Maria, originally from Saint Petersburg, are passionate about design, in particular mid-century furniture and contemporary art, and wanted to avoid the impersonal feel of a house in which, as Georgy puts it, 'someone else has imposed their ideas. We wanted a home that's "liveable in" – somewhere not too done up by designers – and a space that would fill up gradually over time.' He had met Tom through a good friend, and felt he understood what they wanted.

The work to the house took six months and was completed in 2013. The couple's collection of Russian art provided one fruitful starting point for the interior's schemes. 'Their collection was very inspiring,' says Tom. 'It led us to look at all sorts of influences, including Russian Constructivism.'

The first space you walk into is a high-ceilinged sitting room-cum-dining room with a storage unit running parallel to one wall, which creates a short, open-ended passage. Here, the couple have truly indulged their taste for stylish mid-century furniture. The room's two areas are subtly demarcated by a large yet unimposing Forties bookcase by Franco Albini used as a room divider. Albini used it in the same way in his Milan home. At the far end of the room, french windows open onto





An extension on the lower-ground floor houses a sequence of living spaces, including this dining area at the back of the house, which looks out onto a leafy terrace. A set of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Chinese bottles, bought at auction at Christie's, is arranged on the oak dining table, which is from Heerenhuis







a balcony. This partially covers an extension containing an open-plan kitchen-cum-sitting room on the lower-ground floor – the family's favourite room. This area comprises a sequence of spaces: at the back of the house, a dining area has a floor-to-ceiling window overlooking a terrace and leafy square, in the centre is the kitchen and beyond that is a living area clearly defined by cushion-strewn chairs.

The influence of Russian Constructivism, which typically teamed red, black, white and grey, is most evident on the first floor. Near the top of the stairs is Georgy's white-walled study, which has a desk with a high-gloss scarlet glass top and ruby wall lights. 'It's influenced by the Russian Constructivist-inspired graphics of *The Face* magazine in the Eighties and by the movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*,' says Tom. From here, a corridor leads to the main bedroom, with its predominantly grey scheme – enlivened only by a scarlet table lamp – and geometric furniture. Beyond this are a dressing room and a stark grey-and-white bathroom.

The understated take on opulence found in the main bedroom is also in evident in Maria's bathroom and adjoining shower room. The first has a vanity unit in a subtle pink, while the second has walls lined in a rare green marble.

Tom is full of praise for Georgy and Maria's adventurous taste: 'They were both interested in exploring a more idiosyncratic approach to interiors, and that helped us to design a house with character' □

Michaelis Boyd: 020-7221 1237; michaelisboyd.com
Waldo Works: 020-7251 9170; waldoworks.com



OPPOSITE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Maria chose 'Foundation' from Paint and Paper Library for the vanity unit in her bathroom. The adjoining shower room has green marble tiles and a minimalist bath from Agape. Dashes of red in Georgy's study include a glass desktop and a wall light from Zero. THIS PAGE The pared-back style of the main bedroom, including a wall lined in a fabric from Holland & Sherry, is reflected in the artwork from Laura Bartlett Gallery at the opposite end of the room

The KNOWLEDGE



SPECTACULAR ISOLATION Pages 186-193

1_CHIMNEYPIECE
The chimneypiece in the drawing room of this house in New Zealand, with its ribbon-like ornamental quoins, is the 'Langley' from Jamb. Named after Batty Langley, a Georgian garden designer, writer and tastemaker, it is carved from Portland stone, measures 130.5 x 158cm and costs £5,040. *020-7730 2122; jamb.co.uk*

2_MIRROR
The matching pair of mirrors in the drawing room adds to the grand symmetry of the room. These were bought by the Smileys at a private sale. The 'Adam' mirror from Beaumont & Fletcher is crowned with the same Robert Adam-style swagged urn and acanthus leaves. It is carved and gilded by hand, measures 118 x 60cm, and costs £1,750. *020-7352 5594; beaumontandfletcher.com*

3_FABRIC
The curtains in one of the spare rooms are in a fabric from Manuel Canovas that has now been discontinued, but 'Manoir' is similar. Seen here in the garance colourway, the pattern of this cotton is based on an eighteenth-century palampore document from the Indian coast. It is available through Colefax and Fowler for £79 a metre. *020-7244 7427; manuelcanovas.com colefax.com*



WHERE THE HEART IS Pages 200-205

1_WALL LIGHT
Modern 'Foglio' wall lights from Flos were chosen for the sitting room of this Sussex farmhouse. Taken from the Italian word for 'sheet', these are made from simple folded ribbons of steel, which enclose light bulbs to emit a diffused glow. They measure 21 x 37 x 9.7cm and are available in a white or black powder-coated finish for £147, or a shiny chrome for £329. *flos.com*

2_CHAIR
The antique hall chair, which has pride of place in the dining room, was given to Harriet Anstruther by her grandfather. This nineteenth-century mahogany hall chair from Thakeham Furniture in West Sussex – a specialist in fine antique English furniture – has a similarly ornate shape. It measures 84 x 41 x 39cm and costs £850. *01798-342333; thakehamfurniture.co.uk*

3_PRINT
Harriet has lined a group of bird prints found in a St Tropez flea market on a ledge in the dining room. If you are looking to start your own collection, pay a visit to Sotheran's of Sackville Street. This original hand-coloured engraving is taken from Friedrich Justin Bertuch's book *Bilderbuch für Kinder*; it measures 22.5 x 18cm and costs £35. *020-7439 6151; sotherans.co.uk*

SUDHIR PITHWA

Inspired by the houses in this issue, BONNIE ROBINSON gives directions on how to achieve similar style

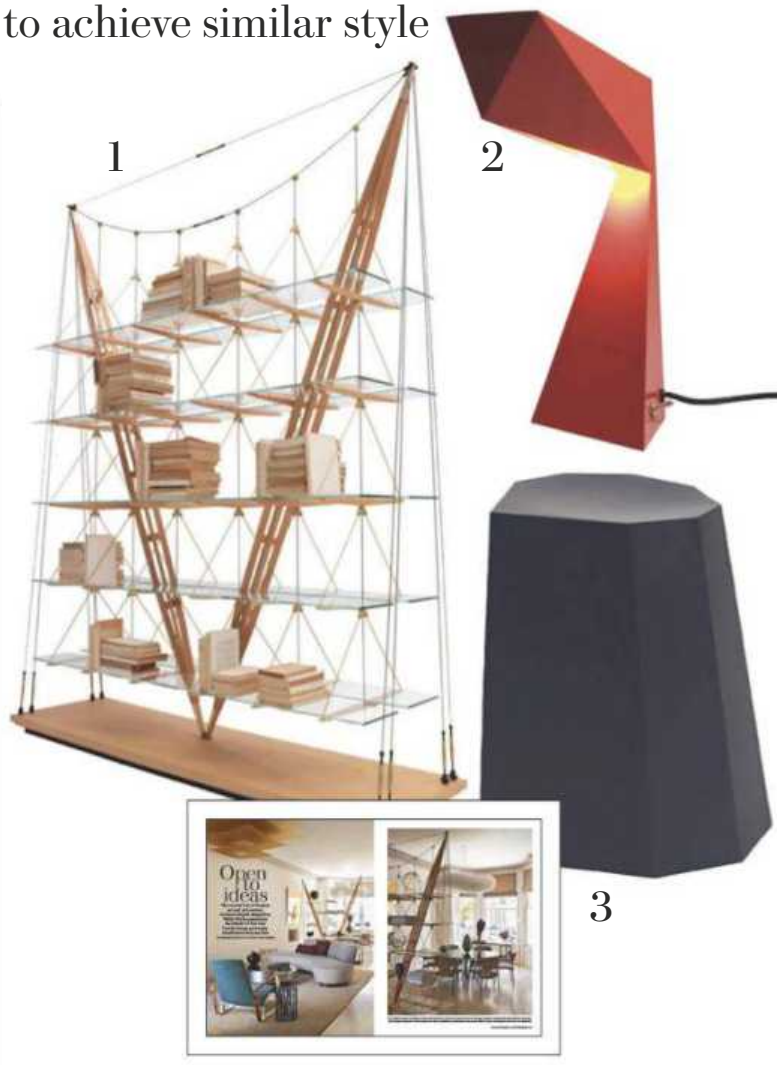


TEXTURE & TONE Pages 206-211

1_PAINT
The cupboards and walls of the dressing room in this London flat are painted in a blue-green colour that was mixed by the designer Adam Bray. Sanderson's 'Danbury' is a similar shade and is available as an oil-based full gloss for a sophisticated and slick finish. It costs £57 for 2.5 litres. *0845-880 5866; sanderson-uk.com*

2_TABLE
The tables on either side of the chimneypiece in the sitting room are the 'Single Peristyle' from Soane. With a base forged from iron, the design comes in seven finishes. It is shown here in the medium size with the same yellow gold finish and a slate top – Adam chose a custom red leather. It measures 81.5 x 76.5 x 38cm and costs £5,450. *020-7730 6400; soane.com*

3_FABRIC
The cushions in the sitting room are in 'Les Hermines' by Le Manach, a cotton woven to order in the Touraine region of France. Choose from six ground colours and 220 pattern colours – you can play with the combinations on Le Manach's website. Shown here in rouge 2 on an ecru ground, it is £242.20 a metre from Claremont. *lemanach.fr | 020-7581 9575; claremont furnishing.com*



OPEN TO IDEAS Pages 212-217

1_BOOKCASE
The bookcase in the open-plan sitting and dining room of this Notting Hill house is a reissue of the 'Veliero', created as a one-off by Franco Albini for his own home in 1940. The piece has the architectural mastery of a suspension bridge and has been re-engineered for stability and reissued by Cassina. It measures 266 x 205.5 x 55.5cm and costs £28,260. *020-7584 0000; cassina.com*

2_DESK LAMP
The red desk lamp on the vintage sideboard in the main bedroom is the 'Origami' lamp, designed by François Champsaur for French company Pouenat. The neatly scored sculptural shape is made from lacquered steel and measures 36 x 20cm diameter. It is available to purchase in the UK from Frenchy Furniture, for £1,450. *020-7622 9786; frenchy furniture.com*

3_STOOL
A white 'Arnold Circus' stool by Martino Gamper is used as a side table in the main bedroom. The design is inspired by the perches used at the circus by performing seals and lions. Made from rotation-moulded plastic, it is shown here in dark grey, measures 44 x 35 x 43cm and costs £59 from Martino's Shop. *martinosshop.bigcartel.com* □



TEXT **JENNIFER GOULDING**
PHOTOGRAPHS **JOE McGORTY**

Creative connections

The relationship between an artisan and the designer who commissions them is an intimate, collaborative and often unacknowledged one. Here, three designers reveal the craftspeople who realise their visions

RABIH HAGE and **MATTHEW CROXFORD**

When Rabih's projects require unusual decorative surfaces, from marbling to wood grain, he knows exactly who to turn to

'Neither of us can remember how we met,' says decorative surface specialist Matthew Croxford. 'But that is the way with the best relationships,' says architect and designer Rabih Hage.

What they do know is that, in 2004, four years before Matthew established his company Croxford and Saunders with Tom Saunders, Rabih asked him to apply some matt and gloss white stripes to the black cloakroom of a house that he was working on in Sloane Square. In a different part of the house, a firm of painters were attempting to give the walls a copper effect. 'They were making a total pig's ear of it,' says Matthew. 'It might sound overblown, but they had no love of colour.' 'I came back to the house to find Matthew explaining to them how to correctly mix the paint and I thought, "I really have to work with this guy,"' says Rabih.

Since then, Matthew has created dozens of bespoke surfaces for Rabih's projects, from graphic 3D panels for the Design Club at Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, to marble effects in the hallway and staircase of a grand house in Piccadilly. 'Matthew is a bit of a legend within his industry,' Rabih explains. 'He can create anything – aged chinoiserie wallpaper, wood grain, limestone, parchment.' Some might ask why Rabih chooses to use Matthew's skills of mimicry rather than the real thing. 'This way is more expressive: it can be personalised and sometimes a little touch of humour can be added,' says Rabih. 'It brings a sense of discovery to the interior.' Matthew is a trained artist – he studied fine art at Middlesex University.

Commissions start with a conversation. 'If it is a graphic or figurative design, I will produce sketches,' Rabih explains. 'But if I am after something abstract that will create an atmosphere, I rely much more on Matthew.' Matthew then produces numerous samples on 30 x 20cm boards, two or three of which he will show to Rabih. Whichever Rabih selects will be refined before the finish can be applied in situ.

'It is about collaboration, but also about trust in execution,' says Rabih. 'Matthew's team is always briefed in a way that makes me feel that they were there when we had our original conversation.' Matthew adds, 'Everyone knows what they are doing, but they also know why they are doing it. They care passionately about their work.' Rabih says that he sees Matthew's craft as 'part of my expression. It is a way of giving a project personality, and it is necessary for creating beautiful interiors'.

Rabih Hage: 020-7823 8288; rabih-hage.com
Croxford and Saunders: 07973-512573; croxfordandsaunders.com



OPPOSITE Matthew and Rabih in Croxford and Saunders' London studio. THIS PAGE FROM TOP An aluminium-leafed design. Patinated Dutch metal leaf on plaster. Matthew creates a textured effect with a blue glaze (also bottom)

LULU LYTLE and MARK LUMLEY

Since the start, Soane has relied on a tight network of craftsmen to produce its work. Blacksmith Mark was one of the first

In 1997, Lulu Lytle spent weeks in the basement of the Crafts Council trawling its card files with a view to setting up a network of the finest craftspeople in Britain. They were to produce her designs for a range of beautiful furniture and lighting, which she would sell from her new London shop, Soane.

One whose file caught her eye was a blacksmith, Alan Evans. It transpired that Alan specialised in much larger projects, but he passed Lulu's telephone number to fellow blacksmith and friend Mark Lumley. 'I must have rung Lulu 10 times, which is nine times more than I am comfortable with,' Mark recalls. 'But work was worryingly quiet.' It was the days before everyone had mobile phones, and Lulu was always on the road visiting workshops. 'I was beginning to think she didn't exist.'

Eventually, contact was established and Lulu invited Mark to send her some examples of his work. 'I received a letter in Mark's elegant handwriting, and a photograph of a beautiful table inspired by the furniture of Diego Giacometti,' recalls Lulu. Their first collaboration was on two 'Cavaletti' tables, which featured 'hoof' feet, a version of which is still available from Soane. 'What he produced was beyond my wildest dreams. Even when he makes two of a design, each one has a unique character.'

Mark has worked almost exclusively for Soane ever since. Sometimes he produces only one or two pieces a month; at other times he works flat out. A few years ago, Lulu asked him to make 32 dressing tables in nine weeks for the Soho Beach House hotel in Miami. 'That came close to giving me a nervous breakdown,' he recalls.

Before new pieces are created, Lulu will come to Mark with an idea – 'often a terrible sketch that will make him laugh'. While the overall aesthetic is guided by Lulu, Mark's contribution is far more than that of a hired pair of hands. 'I have no history of making, and the technicalities of the process inform the design. For that I am completely guided by Mark,' explains Lulu. It is a very fluid process: 'We are on the phone all the time. It is an intimate relationship and personality is key.

'There have been highs and lows since I started Soane. But we have always kept the 34 workshops we collaborate with busy developing new products – from our saddler in Wales to our stone carver in Dorset.

'Right now is a positive, exciting time,' she says. 'People are becoming interested in provenance. They want to see evidence of a human touch, and they want pieces of beauty and value that will be treasured and loved by their great-grandchildren.'

Soane: 020-7730 6400; soane.co.uk
Mark Lumley: 01452-831785; marklumley.co.uk





THIS PAGE FROM RIGHT Lulu and Mark in his Forest of Dean foundry. Mark works on a table. Soane's 'Small Bascule Desk' (from £9,300), made by Mark, which has a forged iron frame and a hand-beaten top



SARAH HILLS and MYRA McDONNELL

It was serendipity that brought lighting and furniture company Porta Romana and potter Myra McDonnell together again



FROM LEFT Glazed ceramic table lamps, from left: 'Zulu' (ocean), £900, and 'Pumpkin' (goldenrod), £360, by Porta Romana. Myra and Sarah at Grayshott Pottery in Surrey

The ceramicist Myra McDonnell is a formidable character – with a sharp and enquiring mind. Her 45-year career began with a degree in industrial ceramics in Stoke-on-Trent and an MA in ceramics at the Royal College of Art. Since then, she has worked as a studio potter specialising in highly decorative tin-glazed pottery that has been exhibited from Sweden to India. She has combined this with freelancing, enabling her to work for a range of clients and accumulate a wealth of knowledge and practical experience. 'I have been acquiring new techniques my whole working life,' she says. Her clients have included Raymond Blanc, Soho House and, more recently, British furniture and lighting company Porta Romana.

Sarah and Andrew Hills, who founded Porta Romana in 1988, met Myra not long after they started their business. 'We set out to have everything handmade and hand-decorated,' Sarah explains. 'When we moved from London to Hampshire in 1999, Myra was one of the first local craftspeople we hired.' Myra spent four years hand-decorating lamp bases and furniture, giving her an intimate understanding of Porta Romana's aesthetic.

Porta Romana now has 100 employees, including 35 craftspeople, ranging from glass-blowers to metalworkers. But in 2012, the pottery it had been using for its ceramic lamp bases went bust. A colleague suggested they try Grayshott Pottery in Surrey, where, as it turned out, Myra was now working as a consultant. 'It was incredibly fortuitous,' Sarah says. 'Not only is Myra familiar with our aesthetic, her knowledge of glazes is encyclopaedic.' Their shared history allowed for a sort of shorthand in the development of new lamp bases. 'She understands exactly what we want,' says Sarah. 'And she has a childlike enthusiasm for playing with glazes.'

Their most ambitious collaboration has resulted in the development of volcanic glazes, which appear on the 'Hadra' and 'Husk' lamps. These glazes were originally created by the potter Lucie Rie and are characterised by hundreds of tiny craters that form during the firing process. Sarah's inspiration came from a Lucie Rie bowl that belonged to her parents. 'I wanted a glaze that was matt, with earthiness and texture – like something that might be found at the bottom of the sea,' she explains. Myra, who coincidently had been researching Lucie Rie's glazes, set about producing 20 trial glazes before settling on the perfect recipe and technique.

'Working with a company like Porta Romana helps draw attention to the value of quieter craft skills that in this modern age are not shown to advantage,' says Myra. 'There is a risk they'll be forgotten altogether, which is quite upsetting.'

As Sarah and Andrew begin to consider that one day they will step back from the running of Porta Romana, they are ensuring the younger members of their team maintain and build upon the relationships with craftspeople. 'It is not enough to have access to these talents: you have to know how to work with them,' says Sarah □

Porta Romana: 020-7352 0440; porta romana.co.uk | Grayshott Pottery: 01428-604404; grayshottpottery.com

the PERFECT *fit*

Set in 40 acres of rolling countryside, the gardens of Foxwood Farm in Wiltshire seamlessly complement their surroundings, thanks to expert planting and a clear design vision

TEXT **JODIE JONES** | PHOTOGRAPHS **MARIANNE MAJERUS**



A cantilevered deck appears to float above a gravel path surrounding the house. This is bordered by beds of mixed perennials and ornamental grasses, punctuated by a group of domed *Catalpa bignonioides* 'Nana', which hovers above the ephemeral planting





ABOVE *Stipa gigantea* and other perennials and grasses anchor the north-west corner of the deck. BELOW A curved sculpture made by William Peers can be seen through a bed of more *Stipa gigantea*, *Salvia nemorosa* 'Amethyst' and sanguisorbas





Simon Green chose to plant swathes of red fescue to chime with the neighbouring fields. The columns of yew that drift into this meadow were designed to echo the fractured shape of an adjoining hedge, which borders another part of the garden

'To appreciate this garden, you must come inside,' says Simon Green, throwing open the door of his Wiltshire home. From the polished concrete floor to the Douglas fir beams, it is a stunning example of modernism with heart and soul. Under Simon's direction, two derelict farm buildings have been linked with new wings to create a long, low house around a central courtyard. The interior is light, the furniture is chosen with meticulous good taste, and there are windows on every side framing views of great beauty and carefully considered effect.

The house is set in 40 acres of its own land, of which some five acres are actively managed as part of the garden. Consequently, the planting is on a grand scale, in an interpretation of the New Perennial style that settles comfortably into its English country setting. There are waving masses of meadow grass through which mown paths sweep. Yew hedges have been carved into undulations that echo the rolling meadows beyond, and crisply rectilinear blocks of beech are positioned with sculptural precision as pleasing objects in their own right.

The trees are grouped, as most gardeners would group perennials, in a herbaceous border, in generous sweeps of five, seven or even more. So there is a glade of catalpas and a copse of white-stemmed birches, a hedge of multi-stemmed *Amelanchier lamarckii* and, glimpsed in the distance, a stand of *Acer griseum*. The acers, with their rust-coloured peeling bark, echo the rich burnt orange of Corten steel used widely around the garden, from lawn edging to fences and plant supports. To the north of the house, low beds of *Hakonechloa macra* and towering beds of *Calamagrostis* x *acutiflora* 'Karl Foerster' sway in the breeze. These are studded with alliums – 'Purple Sensation' and *A. christophii* – which remain as sculptural forms after their purple flowers have faded.

The only flower beds in any conventional sense run away to the south, below a cantilevered deck that seems to float above the ground. These two beds frame a sweep of manicured emerald lawn with clouds of purple and deep pink – alliums and astrantias, eupatoriums, iris and *Aster amellus* 'Veilchenkönigin' (formerly *Aster* 'Violet Queen'). 'It was all about getting the garden to talk to the house and the landscape beyond,' says Simon. 'It was important to consider and control every detail.'

A decade ago, he and his wife Helen left London for a gem of a Queen Anne house in a nearby village. 'I thought it was perfect, until I gradually realised I wanted to change everything about it,' Simon says. Four years later, he came across a ramshackle collection of outhouses set in what he describes as 'an oasis of calm', and knew he had found the blank canvas he was looking for.

Simon is a former director of television advertisements, and he now runs the architectural design practice Moholondon. He has an obsessive eye for detail



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE A mirrored water feature in the central courtyard. *Hakonechloa macra* in a square bed. Frothy pink *Cotinus coggygria* 'Young Lady' amid long grasses. Yew hedges delineate a dining area and pool. An ancient elaeagnus is enclosed by a bed filled with muehlenbeckia











Spherical metal sculptures commissioned from a local blacksmith sit in the shade of a stand of mature hornbeams, where they mark a ha-ha boundary between the main lawn and field beyond

and a residual instinct to frame a shot. When it came to reinventing the buildings, he knew what he wanted and how to achieve it – even if the reality was rather more expensive than he initially thought. 'I was comfortable with the architecture, but the outside space was a different matter,' says Simon. 'I knew in broad terms how I wanted it to look, but didn't have the tools to realise it, which is where Sean came in.'

Garden designer Sean Walter, of The Plant Specialist, vividly remembers the first time he visited the house five years ago. 'Building work was in full swing, but Simon already had some ideas for the garden and we had an immediate meeting of minds. As a result, this has been a tremendously satisfying collaboration. Simon loved my drawings and I love the way he implemented the design.' Their collaborative relationship continues to this day, and is evident wherever you look. When Sean suggested swathes of meadow grass leading to the west of the house, Simon determined they should be monocultures of red fescue, to match the fields around the boundaries. Sean then introduced a clump of *Cotinus coggygria* 'Young Lady' which, he says, 'is pretty boring for most of the year, but in autumn, when the grasses need a lift, explodes in a foam of pink that looks amazing backlit by the sun'.

In the central courtyard, Simon envisaged a series of three large square beds, set around an ancient elaeagnus with gnarled branches that sprawl expansively in every direction. He designed a stunning mirrored water feature, made of dished Marbelite, which bounces light around the southern end of the space. Then he enclosed the elaeagnus in a raised bed of Corten steel, mapped out the location of a third square bed at the north of the courtyard, and turned to Sean for help with the planting. Sean filled the raised bed with muehlenbeckia, a wiry plant with stems the exact colour of the steel. In the third bed, he chose a simple monoculture of *Hakonechloa macra*. 'I like the simplicity of this planting,' explains Sean. 'Anything more would have been frou-frou.'

Around the courtyard walls, Sean suggested a series of planters filled with ferns. Simon couldn't find containers he liked, so designed his own, complete with shadow gaps at the base to give the impression that they are hovering. 'It is a classic example of Simon's perfectionism,' says Sean. 'He will never settle for good enough, which makes him a dream client. We each had a vision – when combined, it took on a life of its own.' Simon is equally delighted with what they have been able to achieve. 'I have indulged myself, without a shadow of a doubt,' he says. 'But I love what we have created. It changes subtly every day and surprises me in ways I couldn't have dreamed of' □

Sean Walter, The Plant Specialist: 01494-866650; theplantspecialist.co.uk
Moholondon: 07879-407441; moholondon.com



Tom in the walled garden he took on 11 years ago. Once a rough paddock grazed by sheep, it has been transformed into a productive kitchen garden where neat rows of vegetables are bordered with low box hedges

GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT

Continuing her series on garden designers, Clare Foster visits the Suffolk home of TOM HOBLYN, which, thanks to a year-round harvest of trained fruit trees and vegetables, is more than just a feast for the eyes

PHOTOGRAPHS **ANDREW MONTGOMERY**



Tom Hoblyn's walled garden in the Suffolk village of Bardwell is his sanctuary. 'After a week of theoretical gardening in the office, designing gardens for other people, it's wonderful to bury my hands in the real thing at the weekend,' he says. Originally trained in agriculture, Tom was destined to take over the family farm in Cornwall, but realised quite early on that it wasn't for him. 'I was gardening for old ladies on the side and began to think that being a gardener was much more up my street,' he says. Deciding to follow his heart, he got a job as a head gardener before applying to do a three-year course in horticulture at Kew. Part of the course focused on garden design, with tutors including Christopher Bradley-Hole and Brita von Schoenaich, and Tom found himself increasingly drawn to this more creative side of horticulture.

After graduating, he worked on various projects with Christopher, as well as Dan Pearson, which gave him the break he needed to set up his own London-based design practice in 2001. 'My first job was in Chalk Farm,' he says, 'and before I knew it, I had worked my way down the street.'

In the beginning, London was where the work was, but Tom's reputation quickly spread, and soon he was getting commissions all around the country and also abroad. The city was no longer the centre of his universe so, in 2004, he and his wife Mary, along with their four children, decided to spread their wings and look for a house that was big enough to accommodate the six of them plus two dogs, two horses, half a dozen sheep and umpteen chickens. They settled on East Anglia and came across Mansard House, a sixteenth-century farmhouse with a distinctive mansard-roof façade added in the eighteenth century, set in three acres of land. The house barely got a look-in, however, once Tom realised that there was a small but perfectly formed walled garden buried under thick swags of ivy, now transformed from an overgrown yard into a well-ordered kitchen garden where every inch of space is put to good use.

Tom had always hankered after a walled garden for growing trained fruit trees, a skill that has been handed down from generation to generation in his family. His grandfather grew and trialled apples for East Malling Research in Kent (one of the country's leading horticultural research centres) and was awarded an OBE for developing the dwarfing rootstock for apple trees. Tom remembers his garden from childhood – 'stuffed full of fruit trees' – and now he is growing some of the same old varieties in his own garden. His pride and joy is a collection of around 40 varieties of apple, pear and peach trained as espaliers, cordons and fans around the old walls.

'There's something incredibly satisfying about training trees,' says Tom. 'I love the routines, the clipping, the different strings and twines you use.' He bought his trees as one-year-old maidens and trained them himself, and he recommends doing this rather than buying ready-trained trees, which will inevitably limit your choice of cultivars and may not be quite the right shape for the space you have planned for them. 'Training your own trees is easy,' he says. 'Fruit trees are very forgiving if you make a mistake.' He prunes twice a year, building up clusters of fruiting spurs along the main stem of the tree, and training the branches along canes in the required shape. Having learned fruit identification from one of the country's leading fruit experts, Harry Baker, he has a discerning taste for apples and selects only those with the best flavour. 'Newton Wonder', for example, is a dual-purpose apple that is used for cooking early in the season and then as a dessert apple, as it sweetens through storage. 'It's got a marvellous history,' says Tom. 'It was a chance seedling found growing on the thatched roof of a pub in Newton, Derbyshire.'

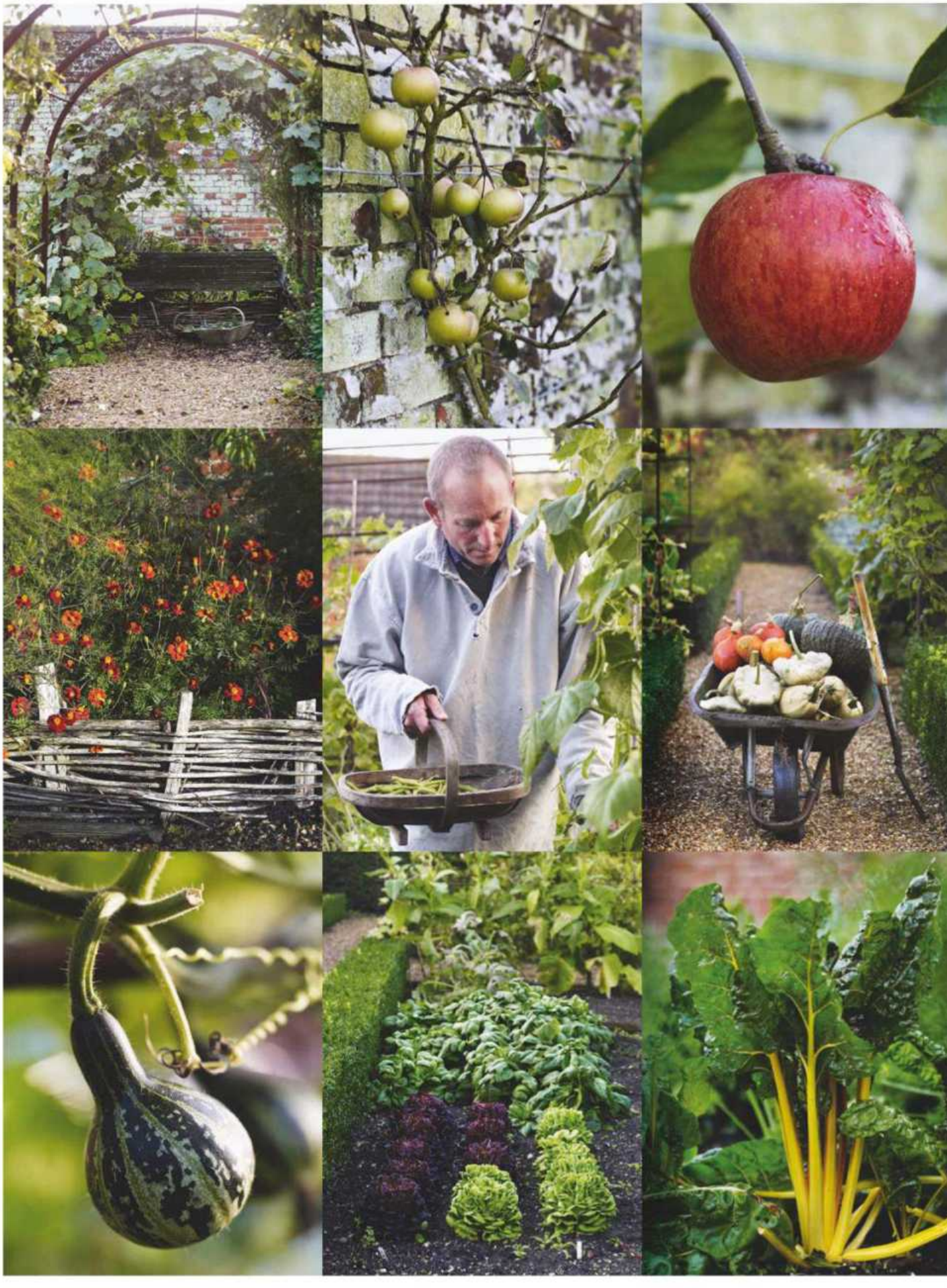
The rest of the walled garden is divided into sections with low box hedges and a long ironwork tunnel used to support a mixture of sweet peas and climbing squash or cucumbers. 'This garden is all about food,' says Tom. 'Everything has to be edible. I love cooking and I'm always trying out new things.' When he first started the garden, his aim was to grow unusual crops that couldn't be found in the supermarkets, but increasingly he is growing a bit of everything, so that the family can come and help themselves to something from the garden at almost any time of the year. Having worked on a biodynamic farm, he describes his approach as 'lazy organic, slightly biodynamic'. He explains, 'I don't have the time to be completely biodynamic, but I borrow some of the principles from it. We have our own sheep and chickens and I make my own compost. I plant green manures and grow marigolds with my tomatoes, and also rely heavily on Mother Nature's predators to help lessen pest damage – with mixed success. Bantams, for example, are very good at eating asparagus beetle but also love pea seedlings.'

Although his garden is a very private space, occasionally Tom invites clients to his house to see the walled garden. 'Most clients want to grow fruit and vegetables somewhere and it's great to be able to bring them here to show them what you can and can't do,' he says. 'I've noticed a distinct increase in the number of people wanting to grow their own produce in recent years.' His own garden, which he describes as 'part smallholding, part garden, part wilderness', is a testament to his love of nature, with woodland, meadow and water to keep the sheep and chickens, and a host of other wildlife happy. But it is in the walled garden that you will find him early on a Saturday morning, pottering about in the greenhouse in his dressing gown with a cup of tea. 'The act of gardening nurtures the soul,' he concludes. 'It's a little act of worship that keeps us anchored and respectful of our environment' □

Thomas Hoblyn Landscape and Garden Design: 01359-252056; thomashoblyn.com

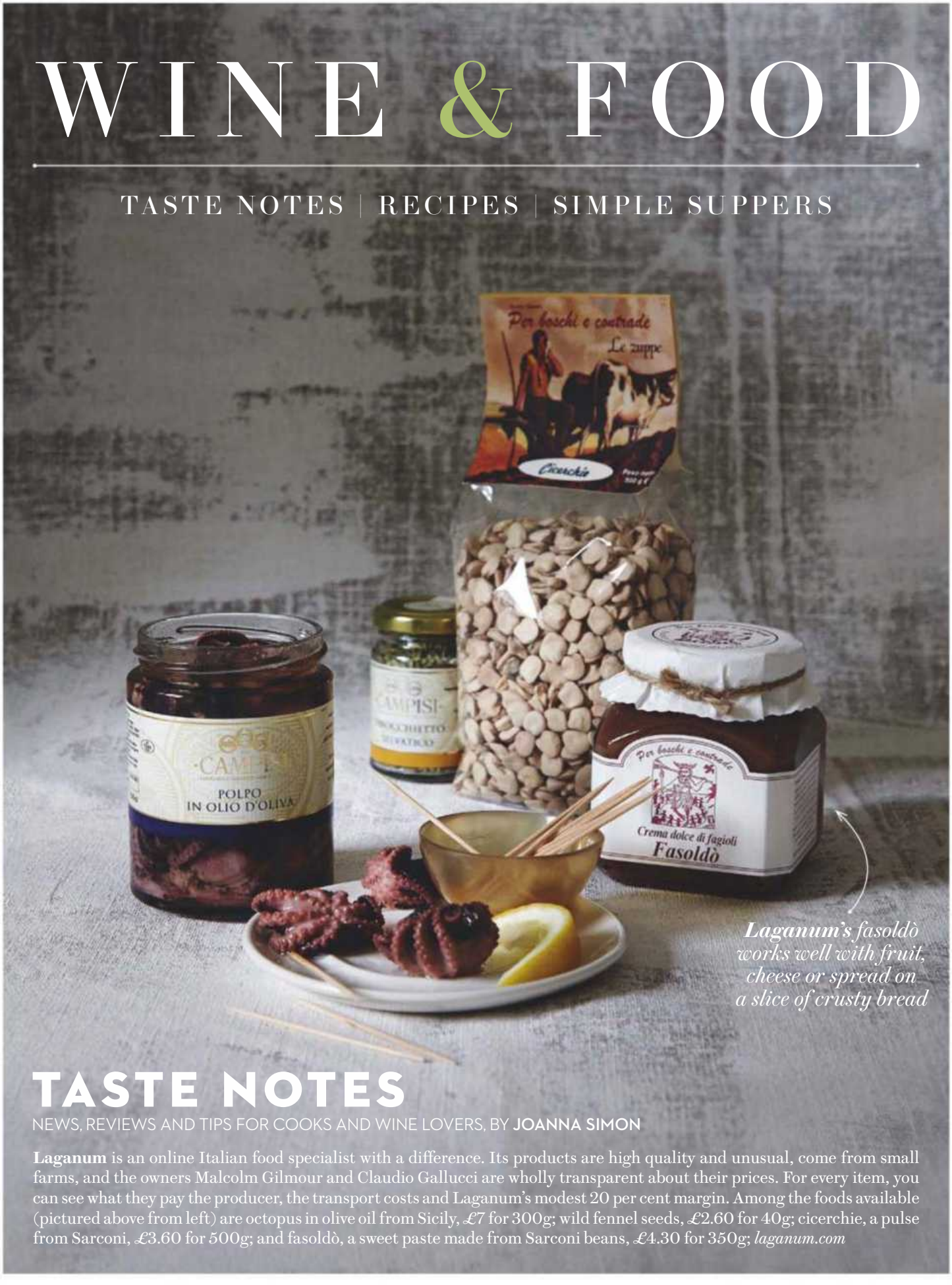
Tom's garden is a testament to his love of nature, with woodland, meadow and water to keep the sheep, chickens and other wildlife happy

OPPOSITE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT A bench under the ironwork tunnel. 'Ashmead's Kernel' trained on the old walls. The dessert apple 'Worcester Pearmain'. A selection of squashes and pumpkins. Golden chard from The Real Seed. Rows of lettuces in contrasting colours. A gourd grows up the iron tunnel; it's not edible, but Tom uses it for Christmas decorations. Flowers such as marigolds are grown as companion plants among the vegetables. Tom picks French beans (centre)



WINE & FOOD

TASTE NOTES | RECIPES | SIMPLE SUPPERS



***Laganum's** fasoldò works well with fruit, cheese or spread on a slice of crusty bread*

PHOTOGRAPHS: OLA O SMIT. STYLING: ALEXANDER BREEZE. SAUCER, £14.75 FOR A SET WITH COFFEE CUP; SMALL HORN BOWL, £15; AND HORN SPOONS, FROM £6.80 EACH; ALL FROM DAVID MELLOR. FRYING PAN, £49, FROM ALESSI. WINE GLASS, £40 FOR TWO, FROM RIEDEL

TASTE NOTES

NEWS, REVIEWS AND TIPS FOR COOKS AND WINE LOVERS, BY **JOANNA SIMON**

Laganum is an online Italian food specialist with a difference. Its products are high quality and unusual, come from small farms, and the owners Malcolm Gilmour and Claudio Gallucci are wholly transparent about their prices. For every item, you can see what they pay the producer, the transport costs and Laganum's modest 20 per cent margin. Among the foods available (pictured above from left) are octopus in olive oil from Sicily, £7 for 300g; wild fennel seeds, £2.60 for 40g; cicerchie, a pulse from Sarconi, £3.60 for 500g; and fasoldò, a sweet paste made from Sarconi beans, £4.30 for 350g; *laganum.com*

FLAVOURS OF CHILDHOOD

Lord William De La Warr of Buckhurst Park estate in Sussex has created his own pork sausages based on the ones he used to enjoy as a child. He tracked down the family of the original butcher and asked for their father's recipe, then had to find a sausage maker to recreate it, opting for nearby Speldhurst. The resulting **Buckhurst Park sausages** are meaty and herby (and free from artificial colours, flavours and MSG); £3 for 400g, from Waitrose in the south east and local independents.





ICED DELIGHT

You don't need to be a cocktail drinker to enjoy **Lushice**'s cocktail-flavoured sorbets. The mojito, pina colada, strawberry daiquiri and margarita flavours are all dairy-free and made from fruit purées sourced in the West Country, with a splash of rum or tequila to give them just 2% alcohol and under 100 calories per 100ml; £4.49–£4.99 for a 500g tub, or £1.99 for a 100g tub, from Ocado and Partridges.

Wine merchant Roberson now supplies wine on tap to some of London's top dining spots, including Avenue in St James's and Blacklock in Soho



First there was coconut water, then birch water and now maple water, all boasting minerals, electrolytes and age-fighting antioxidants. **Maple water** is high in manganese – in a carton of Drinkmaple there is 'more than in a cup of kale'. It is tapped from sustainable organic trees in North America and has a faint caramel flavour; £2.50 for 200ml, from Harvey Nichols; £2.69 for 250ml, from Selfridges.

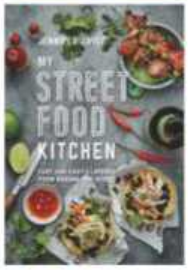


While the big four supermarkets, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Asda, have been cutting their wine ranges, **Marks & Spencer** continues with a 600-strong list that is both innovative and strong on classics, as these two wines show. **Fresquito Vino Nuevo de Tinaja 2014** from Spain is partly made in traditional earthenware jars (*tinajas*) from Pedro Ximénez, a grape usually used for exceptionally sweet or sherry-style wines. It combines an intriguing hint of sherry on the nose with enticing nutty, apple and apricot flavours on the palate; £9. **Moueix Saint-Emilion 2012** is a textbook Merlot-based claret – ripe and velvety but dry and savoury; £14 □

COOKBOOKS



Feeding into the current Korean food craze is **OUR KOREAN KITCHEN** (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £25), by Irish chef Jordan Bourke and his Korean wife Rejina Pyo. Using traditional ingredients and methods, the recipes vary temptingly from easy to more elaborate. This deserves a place in any cook's library.



MY STREET FOOD KITCHEN by Jennifer Joyce (Murdoch Books, £18.99) captures the zeitgeist with doable, authentic recipes in chapters from around the globe, including the Middle East, Mexico and South America, Japan, India and New American food.

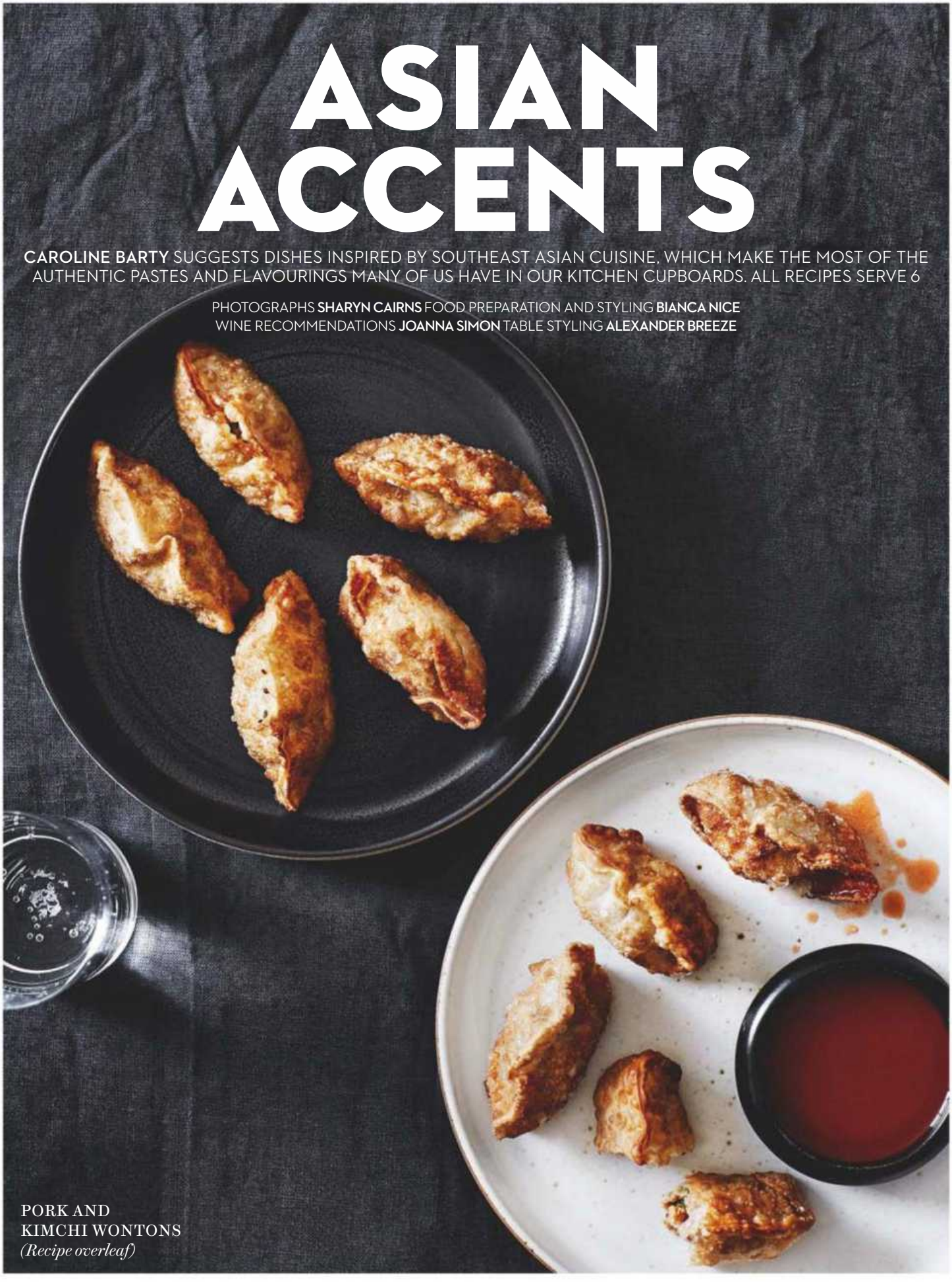


Fig-leaf ice cream and chicory tarte tatin give a flavour of the many stylish recipes found in **30 INGREDIENTS** (Frances Lincoln, £25), Sally Clarke's new book, which celebrates three decades of her eponymous London restaurant.

ASIAN ACCENTS

CAROLINE BARTY SUGGESTS DISHES INSPIRED BY SOUTHEAST ASIAN CUISINE, WHICH MAKE THE MOST OF THE AUTHENTIC PASTES AND FLAVOURINGS MANY OF US HAVE IN OUR KITCHEN CUPBOARDS. ALL RECIPES SERVE 6

PHOTOGRAPHS **SHARYN CAIRNS** FOOD PREPARATION AND STYLING **BIANCA NICE**
WINE RECOMMENDATIONS **JOANNA SIMON** TABLE STYLING **ALEXANDER BREEZE**



PORK AND KIMCHI WONTONS
(Recipe overleaf)

SPEEDY HOT AND SOUR SOUP

For a more substantial main-course dish, you could add prawns or diced tofu. Try to get an authentic tom yum paste (Mae Ploy is a favourite); supermarket-own brands tend to be a bit wishy-washy.

- **2 litres chicken stock, preferably homemade**
- **8 spring onions, trimmed and finely sliced**
- **300g pak choi, washed and finely sliced**
- **125g shiitake mushrooms, finely sliced**
- **2 heaped tbsp tom yum paste**
- **2 kaffir lime leaves**
- **2tbsp fish sauce**
- **300g cooked vermicelli rice noodles**
- **1tbsp finely chopped coriander or mint**

1 Place the stock, spring onions, pak choi, mushrooms, tom yum paste, kaffir lime leaves and fish sauce in a large saucepan. Bring to the boil, then turn down the heat and simmer for 10 minutes or until the vegetables are soft.

2 Stir in the rice noodles and simmer for 1 minute. Sprinkle with the chopped coriander or mint just before serving.

To drink The combination of the chilli heat and sourness needs a really crisp, tangy white to stand up to it. Southern-hemisphere Sauvignon Blanc goes well, but the intensity of a good dry Riesling, northern or southern hemisphere, is even better: **Paul Cluver Ferricrete Riesling 2014** from South Africa, £13, Marks & Spencer. ▷

PORK AND KIMCHI WONTONS

(Pictured on previous page)

I have included two ways of cooking the wontons – both delicious – and indeed you may want to steam half and fry half for a variety of textures. If you are going to fry the wontons, I suggest buying the wonton wrappers marked for deep frying; they steam perfectly well, too. I have used a jar of kimchi here, which tends to have more liquid than the chilled, fresh variety.

- **450g minced pork**
- **4 spring onions, trimmed and finely sliced**
- **2tbsp finely chopped fresh coriander**
- **1tbsp fish sauce**
- **340g kimchi**
- **36 wonton wrappers**
- **Cornflour for dusting**
- **Vegetable oil for shallow frying**

1 Place the minced pork in a mixing bowl and stir in the spring onions, coriander and fish sauce. Place a sieve over another mixing bowl and tip in the kimchi. Squeeze out as much liquid as possible, reserving the liquid to use as a dipping sauce for the wontons. Finely chop the kimchi and stir into the pork mixture.

2 Sprinkle a baking tray with a little cornflour. Remove the wonton pastry wrappers from the packaging and cover with a clean, damp tea towel or kitchen paper. Take a wonton wrapper and lay on a board. Moisten a pastry brush with water and brush along the edges of the wrapper. For round wrappers, place 1tsp of the mixture in the centre, bring the edges together and pinch to seal. As you go, place each wonton on the baking tray. For square wrappers, place 1tsp of the pork mixture in the centre and bring the bottom edge of the pastry up to meet the top. Press firmly along the edges to seal. With your thumb, lightly push the middle of the stuffing up to allow the corners nearest you to come together. Dampen the two corners with water and pinch together tightly.

3 If you're shallow frying, heat about 2cm vegetable oil in a large frying pan. Carefully fry the wontons, a few at a time, for 2–3 minutes each side. The oil might spit, so be vigilant. Keep them warm in the oven while you fry the remaining wontons. For steaming, line a double-layer steamer (stainless steel and bamboo are both good) with 2 discs of non-stick baking parchment. Arrange about 8 wontons in each steamer, making sure they don't touch, and place over a saucepan of boiling water. Steam for 10 minutes. Carefully lift out the wontons and keep them warm in a very low oven, 130˚C/fan oven 110˚C/mark ½, while you cook the rest. Serve with the reserved kimchi liquid for dipping.

To drink As with the hot and sour soup, both dry Riesling and Sauvignon Blanc are good matches, but I find Sauvignon works a little better: **Taste the Difference Coolwater Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2014** from New Zealand, £8, Sainsbury's.

BRAISED BEEF SHORT RIBS WITH CRISPY SHALLOTS

This main course is inspired by Korean *galbijjim* – braised ribs with a variety of vegetables. Here, the dish is topped with a classic Vietnamese garnish of crispy shallots. I use Kikkoman soy sauce, which is not as salty as other brands, so start with 3tbsp if your soy sauce is quite strong. If you don't want to bother with frying the shallots, you can buy tubs of crispy fried onions in most supermarkets.

- **2tbsp vegetable oil**
- **2.5kg beef short ribs**
- **1 large onion, cut into eighths**
- **3 carrots, peeled and sliced into 1cm thick rounds**
- **6 garlic cloves, finely sliced**
- **85g root ginger, peeled and finely chopped**
- **1 stick lemongrass, bruised**
- **700ml beef stock**
- **3–4tbsp soy sauce**
- **2tbsp runny honey**
- **2tbsp cornflour**
- **1tbsp toasted sesame oil**
- **2tbsp finely chopped coriander**

For the shallots

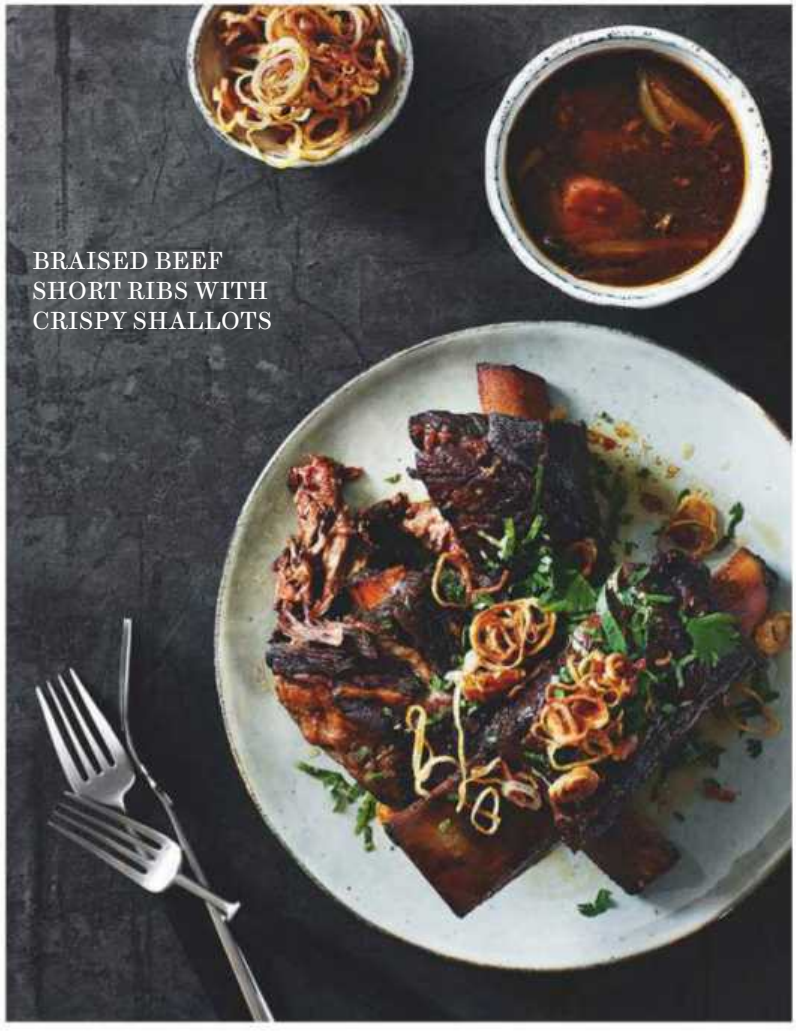
- **500ml vegetable oil**
- **6 banana shallots, finely sliced**

1 Heat the oven to 170˚C/fan oven 150˚C/mark 3. Heat the vegetable oil in a large ovenproof casserole dish and, over a high heat, brown the ribs in batches for about 2 minutes each side. Set the ribs aside. Turn down the heat and add the onion, carrots, garlic, ginger and lemongrass. Cook, stirring frequently, for 5 minutes. Pour in the beef stock, soy sauce and honey. Add the browned ribs and bring to the boil. Cover with a lid or 2 layers of aluminium foil and cook in the oven for 3 hours. The meat should be falling off the bones. Turn down the oven to 120˚C/fan oven 100˚C/mark ½.

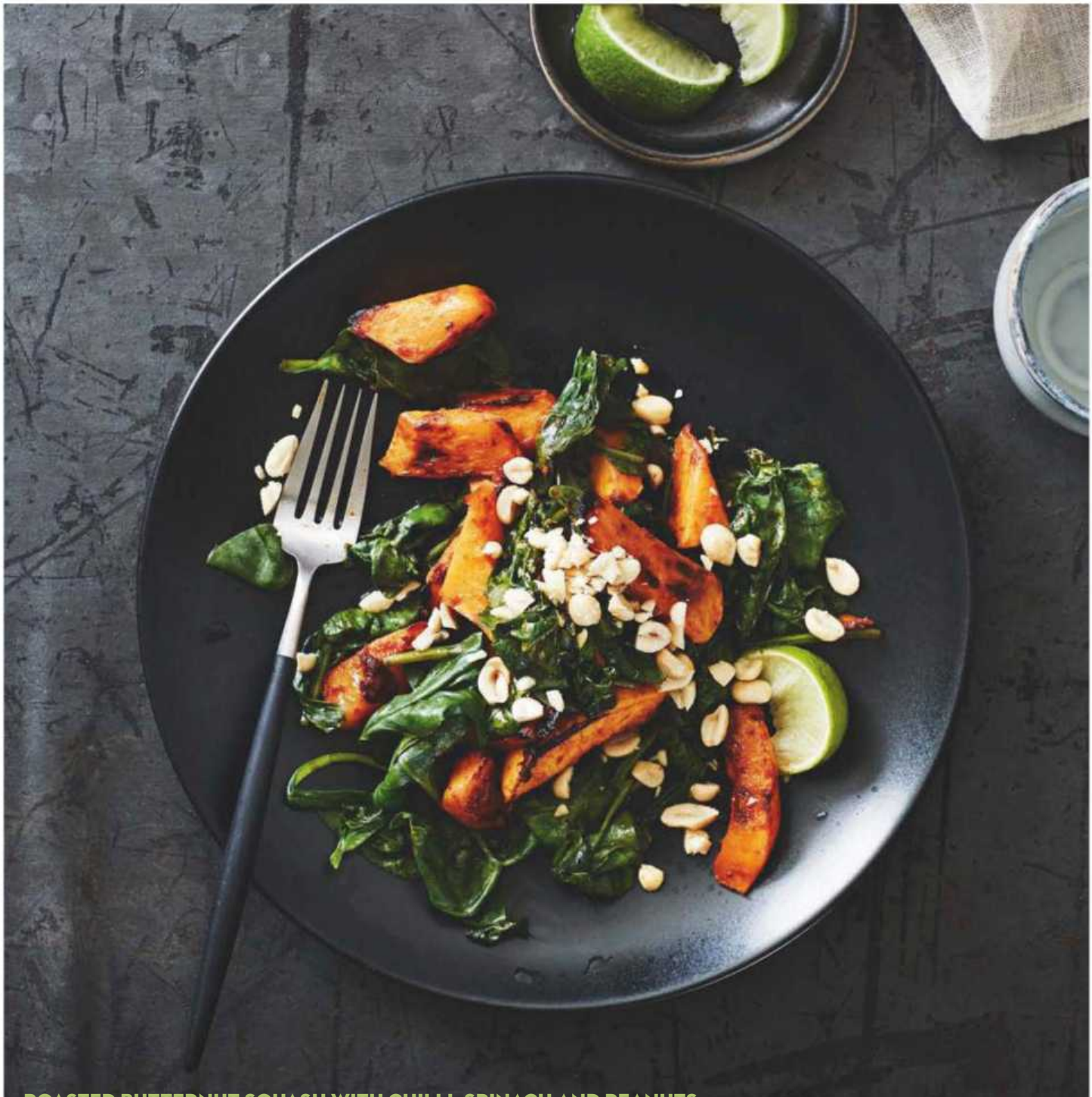
2 For the shallots, heat the oil in a large saucepan – don't use a frying pan as the oil bubbles up when the shallots are added. When the temperature reaches 130˚C, add the shallots and cook for about 5–6 minutes until the shallots are tender but not coloured. Lift out with a slotted spoon and drain on kitchen paper. Turn up the heat and bring the oil to 175˚C. Fry the shallots in batches: carefully add no more than a quarter of them, fry them for about 15 seconds till they turn a deep golden colour, lift out with the slotted spoon and drain on kitchen paper.

3 To finish the dish, remove the ribs from the cooking liquor and place in a large serving dish – you may want to remove the bones. Keep the meat warm in the oven. Remove the lemongrass from the liquor, then skim off as much fat as possible. Mix the cornflour with a little water to form a paste. Place the casserole dish over a low heat. When the liquid is simmering, stir in the cornflour and cook until thickened and glossy. Pour over the meat and sprinkle with sesame oil, coriander and crispy shallots

To drink Beef is happy with many reds, but to go with the soy sauce, honey and shallots, choose one that has spicy fruit, such as a Grenache/Shiraz, Garnacha, Carmenère or Côtes du Rhône: **Domaine de la Meynarde Plan de Dieu Côtes du Rhône Villages 2014**, £9, Marks & Spencer.



BRAISED BEEF SHORT RIBS WITH CRISPY SHALLOTS



ROASTED BUTTERNUT SQUASH WITH CHILLI, SPINACH AND PEANUTS

Gochujang is a chilli paste that comes from Korea. Widely available online, it is an invaluable ingredient for instantly pepping up food. You can stir it into soups, stir-fries and casseroles to give them a deep chilli hit.

- **2tbsp gochujang**
- **2tbsp vegetable oil**
- **1tbsp fish sauce**
- **2 butternut squash, about 2kg, peeled, halved and seeded**
- **300g baby spinach leaves**
- **Juice of 1 lime**
- **50g roasted, salted peanuts, chopped**

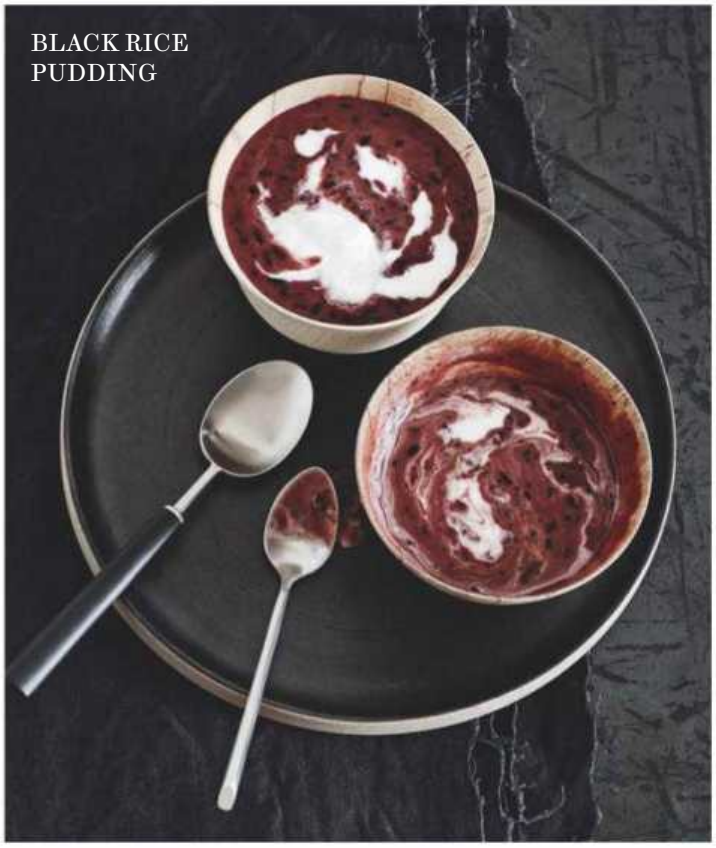
To serve **Lime wedges (optional)**

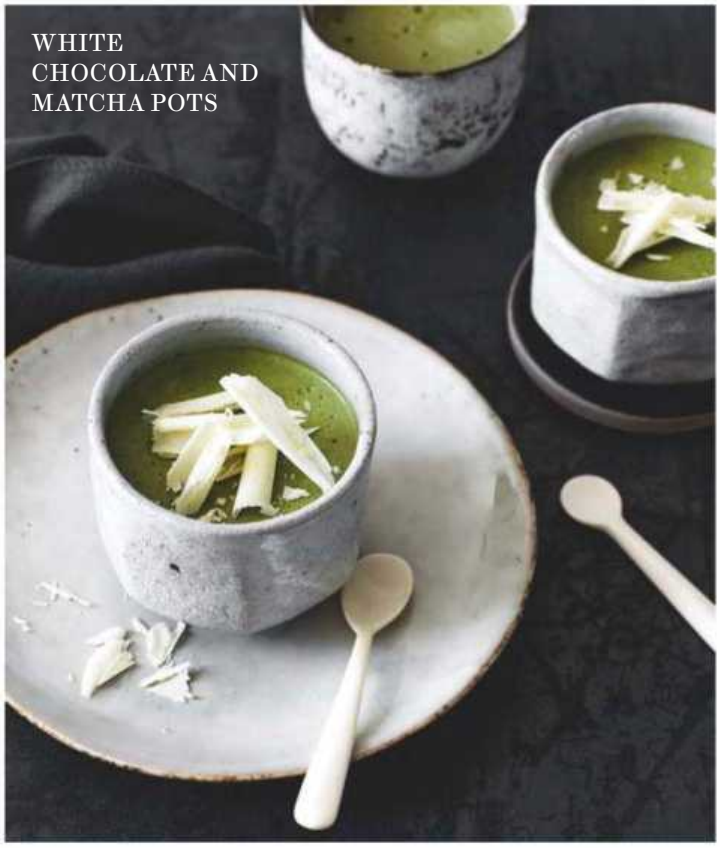
1 Heat the oven to 200˚C/fan oven 180˚C/mark 6. In a large bowl, mix together the gochujang, oil and fish sauce. Cut the squash into 2cm cubes. Tip into the bowl and toss to coat the pieces in the spice paste.

2 Divide the squash evenly between 2 roasting tins. If you cram it all together, the squash will steam and become soggy. Roast in the oven for 20-25 minutes, then turn the squash and roast for a further 20-25 minutes, until soft and browned around the edges.

3 Divide the spinach leaves between the roasting tins and roast for 5 minutes. Tip the contents of the roasting tins into a large serving bowl and pour over the lime juice. Scatter over the peanuts just before serving.

To drink You can choose to drink dry Riesling or Sauvignon Blanc, as with the hot and sour soup and the wontons, but Gewürztraminer or off-dry Riesling are better with the combination of sweet squash and gochujang heat: **Paul Cluver Gewürztraminer 2014** from South Africa, £11.90, Tanners (01743-234455); £11.99, Waitrose. ▷


BLACK RICE PUDDING


WHITE CHOCOLATE AND MATCHA POTS

BLACK RICE PUDDING

This exquisitely coloured rice pudding is an Eastern take on a Western classic. I have specified Thai black glutinous rice, which is slightly different from Chinese black rice. You can use the latter, but I prefer the texture and flavour of the Thai rice. Both are available online at souschef.co.uk. I cook this in a small Le Creuset casserole dish.

- **1tbsp virgin coconut oil**
- **85g palm sugar**
- **200g Thai black glutinous rice**
- **2 x 400g tins coconut milk**
- **2tsp vanilla bean paste**

To serve

- **Coconut yogurt or ice cream**

1 Heat the oven to 170˚C/fan oven 150˚C/mark 3. Wash the rice in cold water. Heat the coconut oil in an ovenproof dish and add the palm sugar. Cook for 1 minute, then stir in the rice and cook for a further minute. Pour in the coconut milk, 300ml water and vanilla bean paste. Bring to the boil, stirring frequently. Cover the dish with a lid (or a double layer of foil) and cook in the oven for 2 hours, stirring the rice pudding after 1 hour.

2 Leave to cool for 15 minutes before serving. Serve with a dollop of coconut yogurt or ice cream.

To drink The sweet, creamy, coconutty flavour needs a rich, sweet wine to match, such as a good Sauternes or an Australian botrytis Sémillon: **Finest Dessert Semillon 2009**, £6.79 for 37.5cl, Tesco.

WHITE CHOCOLATE AND MATCHA POTS

Matcha is a very fine powder made from green-tea leaves specially grown in the shade, which increases their chlorophyll content (and therefore the health benefits). It is available in health-food shops and online. These pots set to a thick custard consistency.

- **8 egg yolks**
- **25g caster sugar**
- **2 heaped tsp matcha powder**
- **100ml whole milk**
- **300ml whipping cream**
- **250g white chocolate, finely chopped**

To serve

- **White chocolate stars or curls**

1 Place the egg yolks and sugar in a mixing bowl and whisk until pale and fluffy. In a small bowl, mix the matcha powder with a little of the milk to form a smooth paste. Pour the remaining milk and cream into a saucepan and whisk in the matcha paste. Place over a moderate heat and bring to the boil.

2 Pour the cream over the egg yolks and sugar and whisk to combine. Pour back into the saucepan and cook over a low heat, stirring continuously, until the mixture thickens enough to coat the back of a wooden spoon. Place the chocolate in a bowl and pour over the hot custard. Leave for 3–4 minutes, then stir until the chocolate has melted.

3 Allow the mixture to cool before pouring into 6 ramekins, pots or glasses. Refrigerate until set, about 6–8 hours minimum. Decorate with little chocolate stars or curls.

To drink These pots need a wine of corresponding sweetness and richness, but one that also has marked freshness to complement the intriguing matcha flavour. Tokaji 5 puttonyos and late-harvest but not heavy Muscats stand up well, as do classic, young Sauternes: **Harrods Sauternes 2012**, £22.95 for 50cl, Harrods □

TABLEWARE INFORMATION

Wontons Stoneware plates (black), 17cm, £16.50, and (white), 18cm, £14; both from Folklore. Glazed terracotta pot, 10cm, £7, from Tierra Negra. Vintage glass tumbler, from a selection, from Pillo . **Soup** Stoneware bowl, 'Karasuba-Iro', 20cm, £16, from Sous Chef. Stoneware pot, 6cm, £35, from Momosan Shop. Chopsticks, 'Galet', by Christofle, £129, from Harlequin London. **Ribs** Stoneware plate, 'Nordic Sand', 24cm, £9.90; set of two bowls, 5cm and 6cm, £9.10; all from Broste. Stainless-steel and resin forks, from £10 each, from The Conran Shop. **Squash** Stoneware plate, 'Dinera', 26cm, £1.50, from Ikea. Stoneware saucer, 10cm, £7.50, from Folklore. Stoneware beaker, £4, from Broste. Stainless-steel and resin fork, as before. **Rice pudding** Oak bowls, 'Kashiwan', by Kihachi Kōbō, 11cm, £38 each, from Momosan Shop. Stoneware plate, 25cm, £22, from Folklore. Stainless-steel spoon, £6, from Broste. Stainless-steel and resin spoon, £14, from The Conran Shop. **Matcha pots** Stoneware tea bowls, by Akiko Hirai, 9cm, from £65 each, from Maud and Mabel. Stoneware plate, £5.75, from Broste. Stoneware saucer, £7.50, from Folklore. Bone spoons, from £4, from David Mellor

NEED FOR SPEED

SHORT ON TIME? **LOUISA CARTER** CREATES A 10-MINUTE PASTA DISH AND A FUSS-FREE SEASONAL DESSERT



All recipes serve 6

PASTA WITH MUSHROOM AND MARSALA SAUCE

I had the idea for this dish when I wanted a sauce that could be ready in the time it takes to cook the pasta. The step that takes the longest is slicing the mushrooms, which could be done in advance. The sauce can also be served with roast chicken breasts. For a more intense flavour, add 10g dried porcini with the other mushrooms. Soak them in boiling water for 10 minutes first, then drain and chop.

• 600g dried penne, linguine or other pasta • 4tbsp extra-virgin olive oil • 25g butter • 600g mushrooms (mix of chestnut, portobello and portobellini), sliced • 3 cloves garlic, finely chopped • 1 heaped tsp finely chopped rosemary needles • 150ml Marsala • 250ml crème fraiche • Freshly grated Parmesan To serve Green salad

1 Bring a large saucepan of water to the boil and add a generous amount of sea salt. Add the pasta, stir, and cook for 10 minutes, or as per the packet instructions.
2 While the pasta is cooking, heat 2tbsp of the oil with the butter in a large frying pan over a medium-high heat. Add the mushrooms and cook, without stirring too much, for 5–7 minutes or until they are browned and any excess liquid has evaporated.
3 Add the garlic, rosemary and some salt and toss for a minute, then pour in the Marsala and let it bubble for a minute. Reduce heat to low, stir in the crème fraiche and heat. Season with plenty of freshly ground black pepper.
4 Drain the pasta, reserving a little of the cooking water in a bowl or jug. Toss the pasta with 1–2tbsp of the remaining oil to coat, then return to the saucepan and stir in the creamy mushroom sauce, adding a splash of the cooking water if needed to thin the consistency slightly. Sprinkle with freshly grated Parmesan.

LEFTOVER BLACKBERRIES

If you have any extra blackberries after making the crostata (see right), or if the hedgerows are generous to us this year, make a simple sauce by simmering them in a covered saucepan with a finger-depth of water and sugar to taste (as a guide, use 1tsp sugar for each handful of berries) for 10 minutes until broken down. Rub them through a sieve, discarding the seeds (you can whizz with a stick blender before sieving to extract even more juice). Leave to cool then serve with ice cream, layer in a glass with chocolate mousse or lemon posset, or use in place of peaches for an elegant, autumnal take on a Bellini. You can also serve the sauce with the crostata.

APPLE, BLACKBERRY AND BROWN-SUGAR CROSTATA

This simple seasonal tart, which has a generous blanket of crumble topping, can be served warm from the oven or made a day or two in advance and served at room temperature (or reheated before serving at 180°C/fan oven 160°C/mark 4 for 7–10 minutes). Ready-rolled pastry and a rough finish keep it simple and speedy. You can add the optional lemon zest and thyme for a more fragrant finish.

• 1 sheet (approximately 25 x 30cm or 215g) ready-rolled, all-butter shortcrust pastry • 2 large Bramley apples (300g–350g prepared weight) • 1tsp lemon juice • 35g demerara sugar • 150g blackberries, washed and patted dry For the topping • 100g demerara sugar • 100g plain flour, spelt flour or wholegrain spelt flour • Finely grated zest of 1 lemon (optional) • 1tsp chopped thyme leaves (optional) • 100g butter, diced

1 Heat the oven to 190°C/fan oven 170°C/mark 5. Line a baking sheet with baking parchment, then place the pastry sheet on top.
2 Peel and core the apples and cut into thin slices (2–3mm thick). Toss in a bowl with the lemon juice and 35g sugar. Spread over the pastry, leaving a 2cm border. Fold the border of pastry over the apples to create a rough edge. Dot the blackberries in among the apples.
3 For the topping, mix the sugar and flour with a small pinch of salt, and add the lemon zest and thyme, if using. Add the butter and use your fingers to rub together to form a rough breadcrumb consistency (you can also do this in a food processor). Scatter over the apples, then bake for 40–45 minutes until golden brown and bubbling at the edges ☐



PHOTOGRAPH: OLA O SMIT. STYLING: ALEXANDER BREEZE



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TRAVEL

AUSTRALIA | COSTA RICA | DELHI | SKI RESORTS

WHERE TIME STANDS STILL

RETURNING TO KANGAROO ISLAND AFTER 20 YEARS, **CAROLINE BECK** ONCE AGAIN DELIGHTS IN THE PROXIMITY OF ABUNDANT WILDLIFE AND THE ENDURING COASTAL GEOLOGY

Australians are disarmingly matter-of-fact with their place names, making you wonder if they're trying to put you off the scent. Kangaroo Island, 15 kilometres off South Australia, near Adelaide, sounds like a theme park, yet this little-visited wildlife haven has such charm, you're tempted to keep it to yourself. And kangaroos, of which there are many, aren't the half of it. When so much of the continent's Dr Seuss-like fauna has been pushed to the margins or even become extinct, on KI – abbreviations being another Aussie trait – you can abandon your binoculars and just look.

On my first walk at dawn, I almost ran into a female kangaroo and her wide-eyed joey, coolly regarding me as if I was the wild animal. Dawn and dusk are such good times to see the island's abundant marsupials that you're warned to slow down if you're driving at these times. They are known to leap completely unexpectedly from the dense, roadside eucalyptus mallee scrub, where kookaburras laugh maniacally and rainbow lorikeets dart like colourful streamers across the sky.

The diversity of wildlife in such a compact area makes KI like a little Galapagos. I first went 20 years ago, staying in an old lighthouse on the wild west coast in Flinders Chase National Park, visited daily by wallabies, wedge-tailed eagles and fairy penguins. Revisiting a place that has held your imagination for two decades is risky, but KI, where they say you should wind your watch back 50 years, has hardly changed. Along the beaches, heavyweight sea lions surf in on high breakers, flopping down on the sand like exhausted competition swimmers. Dolphins and blue whales swim in the hazardous seas and, if you look hard enough, you'll spot the torpedo shapes of adult fur seals sunbathing on rocks, or a sinuous cub in the shallows learning to fish.

The island's dramatic coastal geology is stunning. Remarkable Rocks, another no-frills name, moved me as much as it did when I spent Mother's Day there with my partner and small daughter, and a bottle of Champagne. Millions of years of flaying wind and sea spray have weathered the orange-lichened granite boulders, poised high above the Great Southern Ocean, into strange, abstract shapes like modernist sculpture. Thankfully no fences intrude at this end-of-the-earth place, and the chill in the air reminds you of the next landfall – Antarctica.

There have been changes, but good ones. There are now a handful of boutique wineries on the island, and the range and quality of places to stay has significantly improved (booking ahead in peak season is still to be recommended, though). My room at the three-room Seascape Lodge, on the calmer north coast of KI, overlooked the white-sand sweep of Emu Bay. Every morning I woke to see the sun rise over the Norfolk Island pines, as the fluting call of whistling magpies stirred the air and another day dawned on this magical island ☐

ways and means

Caroline Beck travelled as a guest of Exsus (020-7563 1321; exsus.com). A 10-night trip to Kangaroo Island costs from £1,755 per person including three nights in a five-star hotel in Adelaide, room only, four nights at Seascape Lodge, full board, all international and domestic flights, and car hire on Kangaroo Island. For more details, visit southaustralia.com



The sun sets over Remarkable Rocks, positioned high above the Great Southern Ocean

ROLAND GERTH/4CORNERS IMAGES

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

SOPHIE CAMPBELL EXPERIENCES TWO SIDES OF COSTA RICA: THE BOUNDLESS HOSPITALITY OF THE LOCALS IN COFFEE COUNTRY VERSUS THE MUCH LESS FRIENDLY NATIVE WILDLIFE OF THE RAINFORESTS



There is something languid about the eyelash viper, as if someone has left it slung over a sofa at a party. It lies in trees in heaps of buttercup-yellow coils – and it is deadly. So is the sluggish fer-de-lance snake, which lurks in piles of leaves. Add poison dart frogs, big cats and vampire bats, and you have night-time in the rainforests of Costa Rica.

'Stay close here,' said our guide Gerardo Orozco, shining his torch over the trees with their invisible cargoes of horror. Close? Whenever he stopped, I crashed into him. There have been two recent puma sightings. Jaguars have been known to saunter down to the ocean to snack on the sea turtles. When two fishing bats dive-bombed us, I took off vertically – and we hadn't even left the hotel grounds yet.

The tiny country of Costa Rica straddles the lower Central American isthmus, with Caribbean and Pacific coasts, and a quarter of its land mass is protected as National Parks and Reserves, including two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. It's stuffed with wildlife. Gerardo is the in-house biologist and guide at Playa Cativo lodge, which sits beside a tropical fjord called Golfo Dulce on the Pacific coast. In the Forties it was a farm, before becoming a lodge. It reopened last year with five big rooms and an open-air ground floor overlooking the beach.

I arrived on one of the 16-seater aircraft that hop between the scattered settlements. The last leg was by boat, thumping past miles of pristine forest. We screeched into the bay as lightning forked, the lodge glowing between the trees. Playa Cativo is staffed by friendly young Costa Ricans, apparently as delighted by their wildlife as I was. Giant breakfasts of rice and beans, eggs, plantain and tortillas were served in the company of yellow hummingbirds – dead ringers for Harry Potter's Golden Snitch.

There were kayak trips through the dreamy mangroves lining the rivers, their growth regulated by tiny crabs nibbling the roots. We saw howler monkeys in the rainforest canopies: they are small, but make a noise at night like a thousand yodelling hounds, the loudest sound in nature bar the blue whale.

It was a wrench to leave, swapping rainforest for the coffee country an hour's drive from the capital, San José, on the northern rim of the populous Central Valley. This is where city dwellers have weekend houses and coffee farmers cultivate their beans 1,500 metres above sea level. My destination, Chayote Lodge, was new and the garden raw. It was startling, after Playa Cativo, to find a glass and timber restaurant with six pea-green cabins apparently sliding down the hillside. It all made sense when the owner, Rolando Campos, flung open the door to my cabin. It was based on a *recibidor*, or coffee-receiving station, which indeed tilts downhill: coffee cherries are poured in at the top and trucked away from the bottom. It had olive and white walls, cushions knitted by Rolando's mother and a hilarious table shaped like a giant coffee bean. A polished wood floor sloped via glass doors to a balcony cantilevered over the coffee bushes. Beyond hung the Central Valley, rimmed with volcanoes and draped with a handlebar moustache of white cloud.

'I wanted my lodge to be all about local people,' said Rolando, 'so I built the restaurant bigger than was needed for the suites, to bring in the Costa Ricans.' It worked. It was Holy Week, a fire was blazing in the hearth and diners tackled plates of rice and beans, avocado and pork stew. Rolando, his guide José and driver Tatu dragged me to a local dance hall in an immensely long tent with live bands playing merengues, salsas and boleros. I danced with an elderly man who spun hectically in and out of view to the sound of drums, trumpets and the cheese-grater scrape of the *guiro*.

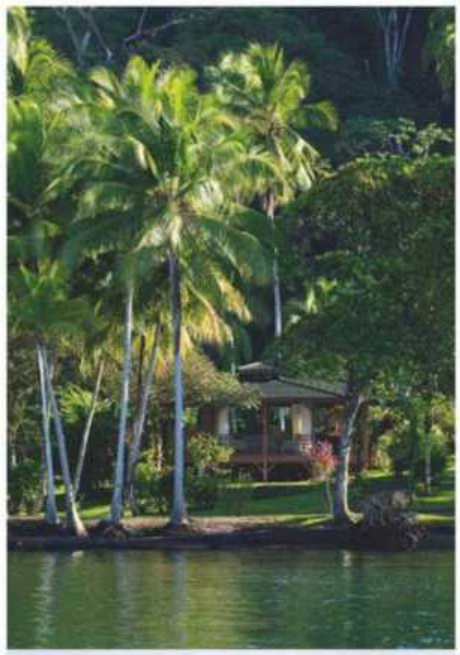
In the painted tin church at Grecia, people chatted quietly while awaiting confession and the priest blessed a tiny produce market with rosemary dipped in holy water. In the local cantina, we watched as Costa Rica's football team failed dismally. We drank endless cups of coffee, filtered through a cloth on a wooden frame into enamel coffee pots. I started waking in the night, staring into the darkness, thinking about how I'd spent my days: a tour of the Espíritu Santo coffee plantation with its brightly coloured machinery and roasting smell; a visit to the world's only drive-up volcano crater at Poás, filled with water like hot battery acid; descending hundreds of steps to see the waterfall at Bajos del Toro; and cooking tortillas with a local señora.

I began to feel that I had done Costa Rica a disservice by focusing so much on its animals. The people were endlessly hospitable and charming – courtly, in fact. And, let's face it, who wants to meet an eyelash viper anyway? ☐

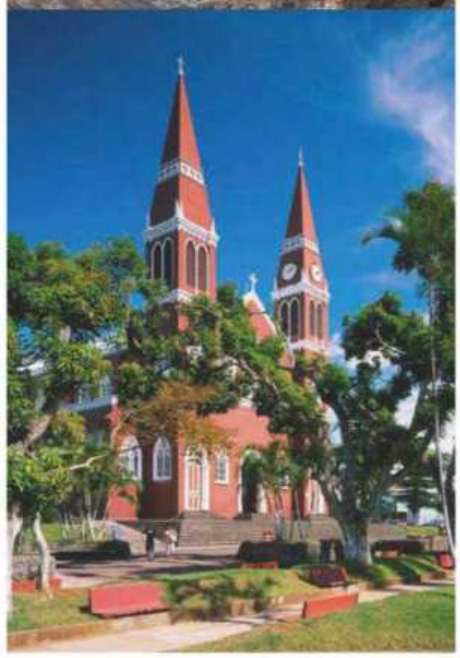


ways and means

Sophie Campbell travelled as guest of Audley Travel (01993-838650; audleytravel.com). A 10-day trip including four nights in a deluxe room at Playa Cativo, full-board, four nights in a suite at Chayote Lodge, B&B, international and domestic flights, and airport transfers in a private vehicle with an English-speaking driver, costs from £2,580 per person.







OPPOSITE An aerial view of the Golfo Dulce in the south of Costa Rica. THIS PAGE FROM TOP Playa Cativo lodge. A crater lake at the summit of the Poás volcano. The painted tin church at Grecia

THORNTON COHEN/ALAMY; REINHARD SCHMID/4CORNERS IMAGES



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FROM FAR LEFT The National Crafts Museum. Kevin in Hauz Khas Village. Transport in Hauz Khas. An earring on sale at Ogaan



ask a local

DELHI

KEVIN NIGLI OF DESIGN LABEL ABRAHAM & THAKORE OFFERS INSIDER KNOWLEDGE ON THE BEST PLACES TO EAT, DRINK AND SHOP IN HIS HOME CITY

PHOTOGRAPHS **PAUL MASSEY**



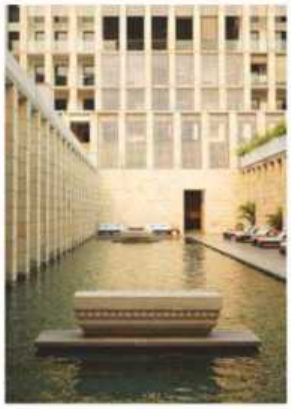




SHOPPING

In addition to its spectacular historical complex of medieval madrasa, tombs and mosques, **Hauz Khas Village** in the southern reaches of the city is the artistic hub of New Delhi. **Ogaan** (ogaan.com), a multi-brand designer store selling the latest fashion and jewellery by contemporary Indian designers, is one of my favourite shops, as is nearby **Krishna at Chaupal**, 26 Hauz Khas Village, a hidden gem for discovering antiques, old textiles, paintings and objets d'art. For carpets, **Siva Oriental Rugs**, at 86a Shahpur Jat, is a must; I love rummaging through Navin Chopra's huge collection of old kilims and pile carpets. Meanwhile, for flea-market finds, particularly furniture, there's nothing better than a stroll through **Amar Colony** in Lajpat Nagar, where traders display their wares beneath tarpaulin covers or in dusty antiques shops. At the opposite end of the spectrum, for a curated selection of home accessories, furniture and fashion, **En Inde** at Meher Chand Market doubles as an industrial-style concept store and a showroom for the innovative jewellery designs of En Inde. Celebrating the handspun, brightly coloured cotton cloth popularised by Mahatma Gandhi, **Khadi Gramodyog** in Connaught Place (kvic.org.in) is something of a Delhi institution. Meanwhile, nearby **Kamala** is the chicest of all the State Emporiums, selling upscale, well-designed textiles and crafts. Last but not least is the old Delhi house in Defence Colony, which has been converted into a contemporary lifestyle store. Downstairs, **MoonRiver** (moonriverstore.com) sells glass, home accessories and gifts; upstairs, **Abraham & Thakore** (abrahamandthakore.com) showcases designer fashion and home collections, which draw inspiration from the rich traditional vocabulary of Indian design and craft.





ANTICLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT Home furnishings at Abraham & Thakore. The swimming pool at The Lodhi hotel. The cafe at Social. Designer clothes on sale at Ogaan. Decorative textiles at Krishna at Chaupal. A glass jug from MoonRiver

FOOD AND DRINK

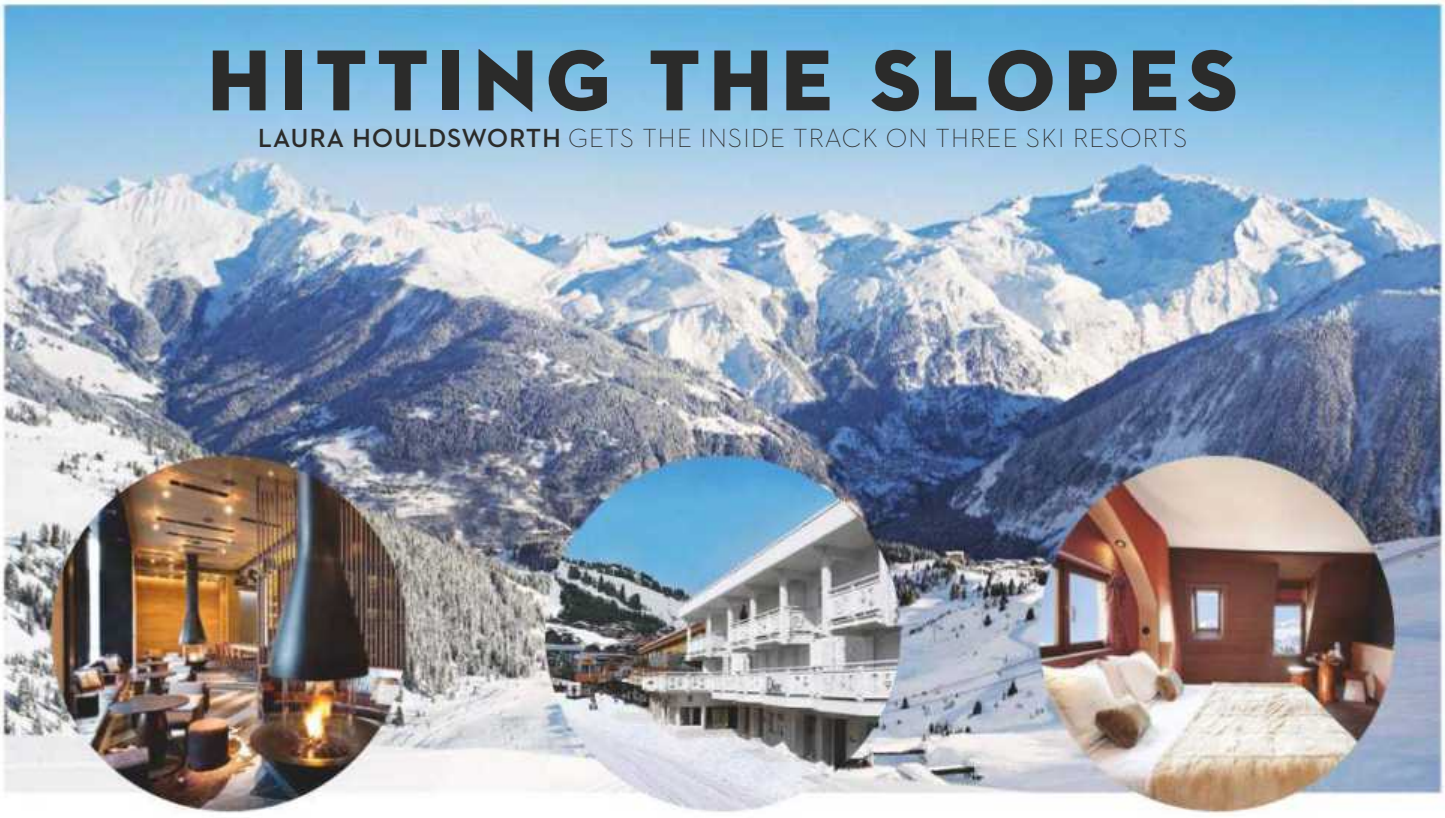
You'll need to book at least a week in advance to eat at **Indian Accent** (indianaccent.com), where Indian cuisine is fused with Western sensibility. In the covered outdoor setting of **Café Lota** at the **National Crafts Museum**, which houses and sells some of the loveliest treasures of Indian craft, traditional and inexpensive street food is served with style. For late-night snacks, go to **Gulati** (gulatirestaurant.in) at Pandara Road Market for the best burra kebabs in town, or for urban cool, head to **Social** in Hauz Khas Village – fashionable cafe by day, edgy club and bar by night.

ACCOMMODATION

With just 40 rooms (each with a private plunge pool) **The Lodhi** (thelodhi.com) is one of the most tranquil hotels in New Delhi. Modern and geometric in its interpretation of traditional Mughal architecture, the hotel is within striking distance of the city's most famous sights. Double rooms start at about £200 a night □

HITTING THE SLOPES

LAURA HOULDSWORTH GETS THE INSIDE TRACK ON THREE SKI RESORTS



ANDERMATT, SWITZERLAND
THE CHEDI ANDERMATT

Famous for the James Bond car chase in *Goldfinger,* Andermatt in Switzerland is now firmly on the map as a must-visit ski resort thanks to The Chedi Andermatt hotel and the ongoing development of 15 new lifts linking it to the Oberalp Pass. Architect Jean-Michel Gathy has given the hotel high ceilings, fur-lined sofas and glittering surfaces. The Chedi has 100 rooms, a wine and cigar library, two restaurants, an ice rink, a spa and a 35-metre indoor pool. Rooms start at £440 a night, including breakfast. *ghmhotels.com/de/andermatt*

Insider tips from the hotel's general manager, Jean-Yves Blatt

Favourite ski run The Gemsstock mountain is world-famous with adrenalin junkies for freeriding, while Sedrun is perfect for families.
Best on-mountain bar Restaurant Station Nätschen, which has a great view from the terrace.
The place to head after hours After a *fondue-plausch* in town at the authentic family-owned restaurant Ochsen, the best bar is Pinte Musikbar.

COURCHEVEL 1850, FRANCE
WHITE 1921

Opening this December, White 1921 is the second property in the White brand by LVMH Hotel Management (its sister hotel is in St Tropez). It is set on the Croisette in the heart of Courchevel 1850, with 26 stylish rooms – including two family suites – spread over three floors, as well as a ski service, fitness suite, sauna, hammam and Jacuzzi. Superior rooms start at £206 a night, B&B, based on two sharing. *white1921.com/courchevel*

Insider tips from the team at White 1921

Favourite ski run Creux, which runs from the top of Saulire all the way down to the heart of Courchevel and offers some of the resort's best views. It's best first thing in the morning as it gets busy.
Best on-mountain bar Le Panoramic – a traditional Savoyard restaurant located right at the top of the Saulire, with stunning views of the summit L'aiguille du Fruit.
The place to head after hours Les Caves, Courchevel's famous nightclub, is an absolute must for true night owls.

AVORIAZ, FRENCH ALPS
HÔTEL DES DROMONTS

The only hotel in Avoriaz, Hôtel des Dromonts is a quirky 34-room boutique property with redesigned interiors that have a cool Sixties feel – keeping in line with the hotel's history and iconic architectural style. One of the most visually impressive hotels in the area, it blends bright pops of colour with a warm and comfortable rustic retro vibe. The playful design seen in the rooms extends into the Pure Altitude spa, with its kaleidoscopic hall of mirrors and false ceilings. Rooms start at £150 a night based on two sharing, B&B. *en.hoteldesdromonts.com*

Insider tips from Nicolas Sibuet, president of Hôtel des Dromonts

Favourite ski run The Stash, a natural snow park in the forest with jumps sculpted in the trees.
Best on-mountain bar Igloo Village, a fantastical collection of carved ice caves that look as though they have come straight out of a fairy-tale, is the place to stop for mulled wine at 11am.
The place to head after hours Le Yak club □

packing list

QUILTED SKI JACKET
'Le Sport Printed Quilted Ski Jacket', £4,390, from Hermès. *hermes.com*





SKI GOGGLES
'Leather and Plastic Ski Goggles', £293, from Chanel. *chanel.com*

SKINCARE
'Vitamin E Lip Conditioner', £23 for 15ml, 'Vitamin E Gel', £65 for 30ml and 'Vitamin E Eye Crème', £37 for 15ml. *jomalone.co.uk*



DAVID ANDRE; CHRISTIAN ARNAL; SUDHIR PITHWA; JODY TODD

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If you are considering private education for your child, the *Tatler Schools Live!* event is an absolute must – a full day of lectures and discussions moderated by Mary Nightingale, ITN newsreader, presenter and mother of two. A distinguished panel of education specialists from top prep and public schools will discuss the fiercely debated subject of single-sex versus co-ed, the eternal question of whether to board or not, and the nitty-gritty of applying to prep and senior schools, particularly in London. We'll provide all the information and advice you need to choose the right school for your child.

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Headmistress
Francis Holland School, Regent's Park



Mrs Carol Evelegh
Principal
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Mrs Emma Goldsmith
Headmistress
Winchester House School



Mr Andrew Halls
Headmaster
King's College School, Wimbledon



Dr Niall Hamilton
Senior admissions tutor
Marlborough College



Mrs Rosemary Herbert
Registrar
Sussex House School



Mrs Sally Hobbs
Headmistress
Orchard House (1993-2015)



Mr James Hooke
Headmaster
Harrodian



Mr Tony Little
Headmaster
Eton (2002-2015)



Mrs Helen Lowe
Headmistress
Bute House



Mr Eddy Newton
Principal
The Cothill Educational Trust



Mrs Samantha Price
Headmistress
Benenden



Sir Anthony Seldon
Master
Wellington College (2006-2015)



Dr Joseph Spence
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Dulwich College



Mr Ben Thomas
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ABTA

THE BALTIC | TURKEY | THE MEDITERRANEAN

CRUISE

When it comes to cruising, interior designers, acclaimed chefs and world-class spas are all on board, so there has never been a better time to explore the world's oceans, rivers and waterways



The skies over the Mersey were illuminated by dazzling fireworks this summer in salute to Cunard Line's 175 years in the cruise business. The celebration called on its three elegant *Queens*, which were assembled in Liverpool – the company was founded here in 1840 – to be cheered on by more than 1.3 million spectators.

Cruising is revisiting the 'Golden Age' epitomised by Cunard and other great lines of the Twenties and Thirties; a legendary era of black-tie dinners, film stars on the promenade deck, glorious ballrooms and indulgent afternoon tea.

Although today's cruise ships may seem more like floating resorts, we are nevertheless seeing a return to this more traditional opulence, to gorgeous interiors, butler service and fine dining. And there are plenty of contemporary luxuries, too, such as spas, cookery classes with high-profile chefs and dance lessons from the stars of *Strictly Come Dancing*. Indeed, endorsement by famous names is giving cruising new kudos.

Chefs Marco Pierre White and Atul Kochhar have restaurants on P&O Cruises ships, while Nobu Matsuhisa is on board the upmarket Crystal Cruises. Health spa specialist Canyon Ranch has world-class day spas on the ships of Cunard, Regent Seven Seas and Celebrity Cruises. Ralph Lauren Home furnished suites on Oceania Cruises' newest ships, while P&O Cruises' sleek *Britannia*, christened by the Queen in March this year, shares an interior designer with The Berkeley and The Dorchester hotels in London.

Perhaps the anticipation surrounding the Regent Suite on the five-star *Explorer*, the newest ship from Regent Seven Seas, sums up this new confidence. When the ship launches in summer 2016, the largest suite ever to grace the seven seas will be available for a cool £6,000 a night. The suite will come with a baby grand, its own marble spa treatment area, floor-to-ceiling windows, a lavish entertaining space and a private car and driver on call for exploring ashore. Without question, the glory days of cruising are back □

WORDS: SUE BRYANT. PHOTOGRAPH: CUNARD LINE


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SILVERSEA

NEWS

Ocean voyages and news from luxury ships around the globe



SUITE SAILING

A new voyage aboard Regent's Seven Seas Explorer departs from Venice and has an itinerary including Corfu, Zakynthos, Capri and Amalfi. *The 11-day 'Azure Awakenings' cruise costs from £5,299pp, including flights, departing August 3, 2016. 020-7838 5991; theluxurycruise company.com*



ACCESS ALL AREAS

Silversea offers several expedition voyages among its luxury cruise collection, including a 23-day trip that follows much of Africa's western coast from Cape Town in the south to Dakar in Senegal. Highlights include Lüderitz and Walvis Bay in Namibia, trips to old whaling stations and abandoned diamond mines, numerous wildlife-watching opportunities, and the chance to explore local cultures in little-visited communities. *The 'Africa' cruise on Silver Explorer costs from £7,950pp, full board, departing Cape Town on March 23, 2016. 0844-251 0837; silversea.com*



A STAR IS BORN

In May 2015, Viking River Cruises launched *Viking Star*, the first of three ocean-going vessels for the company. Quirky features – the 'snow grotto', pictured left, is for cooling off after using the Finnish sauna – nod to the company's Scandinavian heritage, while the traditional walk-around promenade that fully encircles the vessel is the perfect perch for watching the sunset. As well as voyages in Scandinavia and the Baltic, and the Western and Eastern Mediterranean, Viking will launch two new itineraries that visit the British Isles for 2016. *Prices start from £4,490pp. 0800-298 9700; vikingcruises.co.uk*



INTO THE BLUE

Paul Gauguin Cruises, whose eponymous flagship was purpose-built for exploring the turquoise lagoons of French Polynesia, offers comfortable, all-inclusive cruises. The oceanographer Jean-Michel Cousteau will host four itineraries on board *Paul Gauguin* in 2016, teaching guests about the ocean's vital importance to the survival of life on earth. *The 10-night 'Society Islands & Tuamotu' cruise departs March 2, 2016 and costs from £5,394pp, all-inclusive. 020-7399 7691; pgcruises.com*



DECADENT WATERS

Following her maiden season in Europe, *MS Koningsdam* will offer Southern Caribbean cruises over the winter. Itineraries on board the new Pinnacle Class, 2,650-guest vessel include a visit to Holland America Line's private island, Half Moon Cay, where guests can swim with stingrays, ride a horse on the beach, explore the island's colourful reefs in a new glass-bottom boat, or simply curl up in a beach cabana and watch the cobalt water lap against the white sand. *The 10-day 'Southern Caribbean Seafarer' cruise costs from £749pp, cruise only, and departs from Fort Lauderdale November 13 and December 4, 2016. 0843-374 2300; hollandamerica.com*

WORDS: TIM JEPSON; LOUISA PARKER BOWLES. PHOTOGRAPHS: BJORN HOGLUND/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM



VOGUE café

Vogue Café Moscow
Kuznetsk Bridge 7/9, Moscow, Russia

Vogue Café at The Dubai Mall
Dubai, UAE

Vogue Café Kiev
Fairmont Grand Hotel, Kiev, Ukraine

Vogue Lounge Bangkok
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NEWS

Five once-in-a-lifetime expedition cruises in the polar regions



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SHACKLETON

The more adventurous small-ship cruises to Antarctica visit not only the Antarctic Peninsula, but also South Georgia and the Falkland and South Shetland Islands, following part of the route taken by the explorer Ernest Shackleton from 1914–17. These ice-class ships offer unrivalled views of wildlife in remote areas. One such cruise is the 20-day 'Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia and Falklands' round-trip from Ushuaia, Argentina. It costs from £11,330pp, full board, cruise only, departing January 30, 2016. *01737-214291; discover-the-world.co.uk*

ALL ABOARD

From September 2016, Hurtigruten is adding a second ship to its Antarctica programme. With a capacity of 500, *MS Midnatsol* is more than double the size of her sister ship *MS Fram* and offers a 'Young Explorers' programme for teenagers. Before arriving in Antarctica, guests will glide past Chilean fjords, including the Garibaldi glaciers, and Cape Horn, and have the opportunity to kayak, hike or snowshoe. *The 15-day 'Chilean Fjords and Antarctica' voyage departs November 10, 2016, and costs from £3,896pp. 020-3582 6642; hurtigruten.co.uk*





HEAD NORTH

The Northeast Passage to Asia, via Northern Russia, is an epic journey. Hapag-Lloyd's 175-passenger ship *Hanseatic* sails from Tromsø in Norway to Nome in Alaska by way of remote destinations including the New Siberian and Medvezhiy Islands. *The 27-day 'Northeast Passage' cruise departs on August 16, 2016. From £15,200pp, cruise only. 00-49-403 070 3070; hl-cruises.com*





INTO THE WILD

Crystal Cruises offers the only big-ship voyage on the Northwest Passage, the long-sought route across the roof of North America. Retreating pack ice means certain vessels can now sail around Alaska into the Beaufort Sea, through the Canadian Arctic Archipelago and on to Greenland (or vice-versa). The voyage offers a procession of majestic glaciers and fjords along with sightings of polar bears, narwhals, musk oxen and caribou. There is also the chance to take part in Arctic adventures and activities, such as Zodiac landings, kayaking in protected bays or trekking the tundra with a guide. *The 32-day 'Northwest Passage' cruise with Crystal Cruises costs from £15,430pp, cruise-only, departing from Anchorage on August 16, 2016, and arriving in New York on September 16. 020-7399 7601; crystalcruises.co.uk*

ICE BREAKER

Board a nuclear-powered icebreaker for this expedition from Murmansk in northern Russia to the geographic North Pole. The 128-berth *50 Years of Victory* travels via Franz Josef Land, an icy archipelago in the Barents Sea. The cruise culminates with a hot-air balloon ride at the Pole. *The 14-day 'North Pole: The Ultimate Arctic Adventure' cruise with Quark Expeditions, departing June 15 and 26, 2016, costs from £25,445pp in a suite, full board. 020-3514 2712; quarkexpeditions.com* ▷

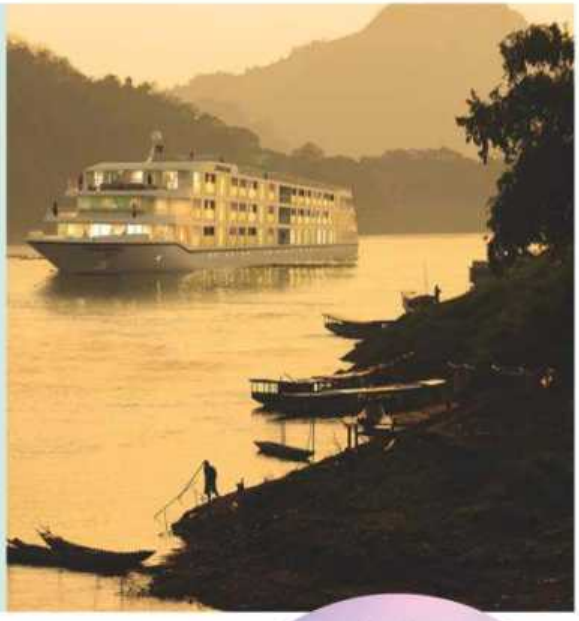
WORDS: TIM JEPSON; LOUISA PARKER BOWLES. IMAGE: WILLS DAVID

NEWS

Discover historic cities and enchanting waterways on a river cruise

THE MIGHTY MEKONG

A Khmer cooking class and high tea at the historic Hotel Le Royal are promised highlights in Phnom Penh for passengers on Scenic's new Mekong river cruise. The Australian company, also making its debut on the Irrawaddy in Myanmar and Douro in Portugal next year, has seven-night voyages sandwiched between hotel stays in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and Siem Reap in Cambodia, with visits to local villages and markets. You will also learn about the Killing Fields and the Vietnam War. *Cruises depart between January and December 2016, and cost from £3,495pp, including flights, transfers, meals, drinks, excursions and gratuities. 0808-102 0152; scenic.co.uk*





DAYS OF THE RAJ

Cruise the Mother Ganga, the holiest river in India, with Uniworld River Cruises. In seven nights you will learn about the life of Mother Teresa, visit temples, mosques, palaces and markets, see the birthplace of the Hare Krishna movement, ride in a trishaw, and watch life unfold along the river's banks from the comfort of the colonial-style *Ganges Voyager II*. The voyage is from Kolkata at the end of a tour of the Golden Triangle (Delhi, Agra and Jaipur). *From £5,169pp for 13 days departing January 9 and March 11, 2016, including internal flights, transfers, meals and sightseeing. 0808-168 9110; uniworldrivercruises.co.uk*



TULIPS FROM AMSTERDAM

Each year, seven million tulips fill Keukenhof Gardens in Lisse, Holland, creating a colourful springtime flower display. It is one of the highlights of a cruise around Holland and Belgium with Avalon Waterways. The seven-night itinerary also includes visits to the cities of Ghent and Antwerp. From the end of May, when Keukenhof closes, there are trips to Delft's famous canals and pottery. *'Charms of Holland and Brussels' departs from April 12, 2016. From £2,046pp for seven nights including flights. 0800-668 1801; avaloncruises.co.uk*

SAY CHEERS



What could be nicer than cruising the rivers of south-west France with trips ashore to imbibe wine from some of the country's best cellars? AmaWaterways' new cruises on the Gironde, Garonne and Dordogne rivers allow you to do just that. Besides tours and tastings in Médoc, Sancerre and Saint-Emilion, there is also plenty of time to discover Bordeaux. *From £1,859pp, departing March 25, 2016. 0808-256 8422; amawaterways.co.uk*



EASTERN PROMISE

The Iron Gates Gorge, separating Romania and Serbia, is the most scenic stretch on the Danube River, narrowing to just 150 metres at one point. Sail through on Titan Travel's new voyage between Budapest and Giurgiu, Romania, and learn about life behind the former Iron Curtain on tours to castles, fortresses and rock churches in Serbia, Croatia and Bulgaria. Two nights in hotels in Bucharest and Istanbul round off the journey. *From £2,999 for 12 days departing April 6, 2016, including flights, transfers and excursions. 0800-988 5873; titantravel.co.uk*

WORDS: JANE ARCHER

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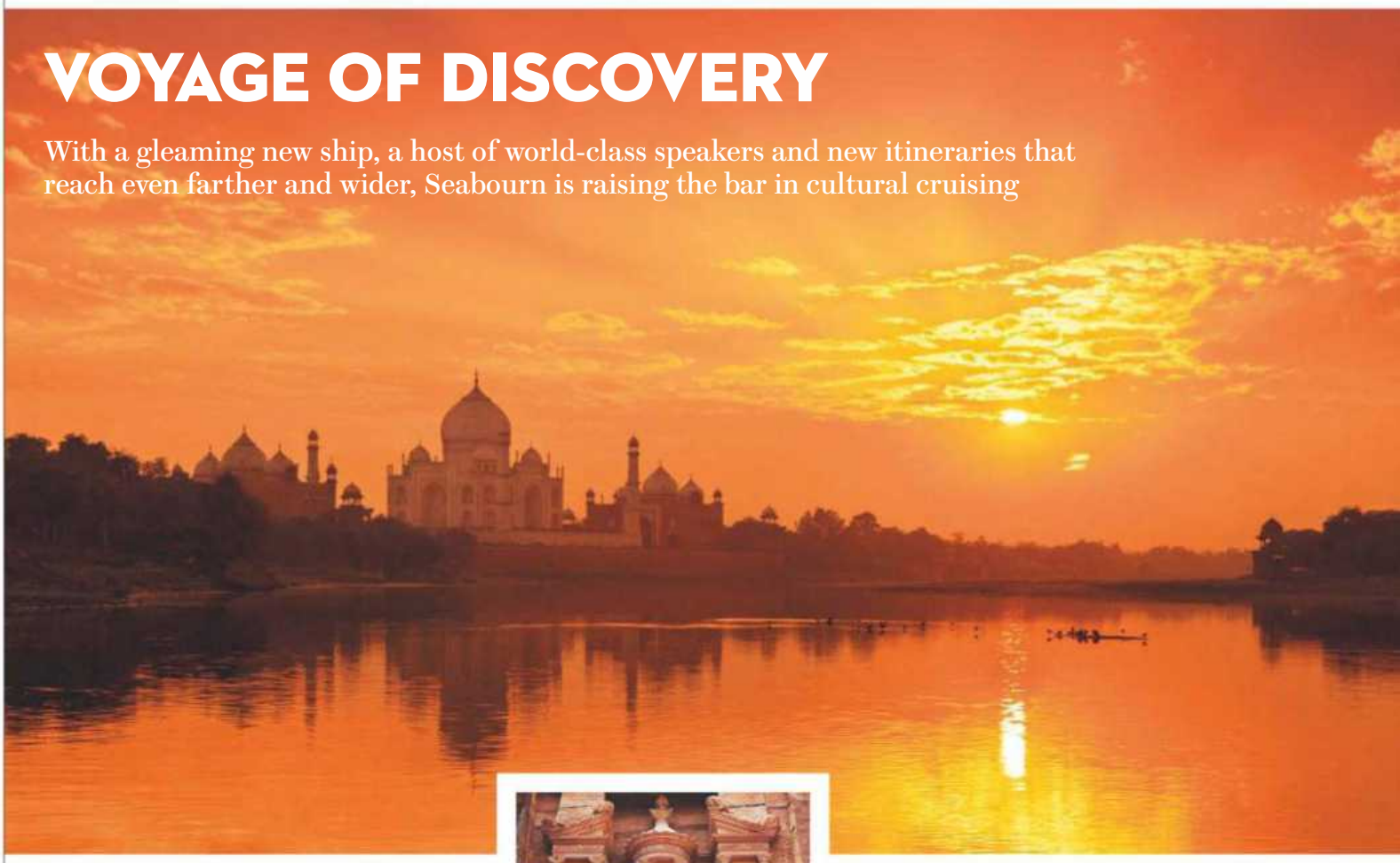
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Terms and Conditions: The up to £1,000 per couple saving is based on the full brochure price. £995 based on 8-day Danube Delights river cruise departing on 17th March 2016. Discounts and pricing is correct at the time of going to print (July 2015). 1.5% credit card charge (1.95% Am Ex) will apply. For full itineraries and booking conditions, please see our 2016 river cruise brochure or visit www.emeraldwaterways.co.uk.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

With a gleaming new ship, a host of world-class speakers and new itineraries that reach even farther and wider, Seabourn is raising the bar in cultural cruising



Designed with discerning, educated travellers in mind, Seabourn's intimate ships provide the ultimate blend of elegance, service and intrepid expedition. Far exceeding any expectation you might have of a cruise, there's nothing formulaic about stepping on board Seabourn. More 'boutique hotel on the water' than classic cruise ship, passengers can sit back, drink in the views from their modern luxurious suites – 90 per cent of which have their own verandah – and look forward to a new adventure each morning. From classical concerts in the ancient city of Ephesus to 'caviar in the surf' in the tropics, Seabourn's imaginative itineraries deliver a vivid spectrum of experiences.

With exquisite cuisine, world-class wine labels and a staff to guest ratio of nearly 1:1, these smart, contemporary ships are the most sophisticated mode in which to discover the globe. New destinations added each year ensure that throughout the cultural calendar, you're at the centre of the action, and this year, we're particularly excited to see Burma and Antarctica on the list.



LEAVING A LEGACY

Since Seabourn's earliest voyage, the company has been arranging visits to compelling UNESCO World Heritage sites, such as Petra in Jordan (above). Itineraries include more than 150 designated sites, and now, following an official collaboration, Seabourn is supporting UNESCO's efforts to preserve the world's most precious sights.

ON THE HORIZON

Joining Seabourn's glittering fleet of three all-suite ships, the stunning *Seabourn Encore* will be making her official debut in December 2016.

Taking cruising to a whole new level of luxury, the ship is modelled on the award-winning *Seabourn Odyssey*, but as its name suggests, it gives sophisticated travellers more of what they love most: more space, more style and more exclusivity. The striking new vessel has an extra deck allowing guests to really stretch their legs, as well as an elegant new dining room.

Bold interiors were realised by Adam D Tihany, a world-renowned New York-based designer responsible for the interiors of Belmond Hotel Cipriani in Venice and The Beverly Hills hotel in Los Angeles. Bringing curvaceous movement to the ship's already impressive lines, and a verandah







FROM FAR LEFT The Taj Mahal, India. On excursion with a Seabourn chef. Interior designer Adam D Tihany and his interiors for the new *Seabourn Encore* (below)

with every suite, the completed look and feel is similar to that of a glamorous private yacht.

Dropping anchor in destinations as diverse as Greece, the Arabian Peninsula, the South Pacific, Australia and New Zealand, *Encore*'s inaugural season sees the introduction of nine exciting itineraries. They include visits to Singapore and Sydney, as well as lesser-known corners of the world such as Phillip Island off the southern coast of Australia – known for its quirky 'penguin parade'.

A STEP BEYOND

Those with an interest in history, art and science can enjoy a series of talks, or 'Seabourn Conversations', in which luminaries from all walks of life join guests on board for lively, informative discussions. They will share meals with guests, step ashore on guided excursions and enjoy long chats into the night □

Seabourn offers worldwide destinations for 2016 from the Greek islands and Baltic cities through to the Caribbean and Panama Canal, Asia, Australasia and even the white continent of Antarctica. To find out more, call 0843- 373 2000 for details and to request a brochure or visit seabourn.com





ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

In January, Richard Stone, the royal portrait painter (pictured above, painting Prince Charles), will take his third cruise as part of Seabourn Conversations. At age 22, Richard was invited to paint the Queen Mother and went on to paint members of the royal family for four decades. Richard will be on board *Seabourn Odyssey*'s 22-night 'Pacific Odyssey' cruise departing from Los Angeles on January 4, 2016, incorporating Nuku Hiva, Hiva Oa, Papeete, Mo'orea, Bora Bora, Rarotonga and Russell Bay and concluding in Auckland. Fares start from £7,499pp.



LIFE IS SUITE

Celebrity Cruises' new Suite Class experience sets out to prove that big-ship cruising doesn't have to be impersonal

A week before a spring cruise in the Baltic, an email pinged into my inbox. It was from the concierge of Michael's Club, Anca Cenea, who looks after the private lounge for suite guests on board *Celebrity Silhouette*, the ship I was to embark. Anca introduced herself: was there anything she could assist with ahead of departure?

More accustomed to small ships and river cruisers, my first big-ship cruise was an exciting prospect: *Silhouette* has everything you might expect of a vessel 319 metres long – with 14 public decks filled with 12 restaurants, 12 bars and lounges, indoor and outdoor pools, a Canyon Ranch spa, theatre shows and more. Better still, *Silhouette* would cruise a winning Baltic itinerary to ports including Helsinki, Tallinn, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, and St Petersburg. But there was trepidation: would *Silhouette's* size – plus 2,886 guests and 1,500 crew – mean the experience would be impersonal? Anca's pre-emptive email was encouraging.

My arrival at the port in Stockholm was less auspicious but having located the 'Suite Class' channel, my check-in paperwork was swiftly dispatched and I was escorted to my Royal Suite on Deck 10, a smart, 55-square-metre space with a verandah, located mid-ship. My regal accommodation granted access to Celebrity's new Suite Class amenities, launched in April across its entire fleet. In addition to a new suite-only restaurant Luminae, suite guests are now offered complimentary dining in all speciality restaurants, unlimited 'premium' drinks, 24-hour Wi-Fi and access to Michael's Club lounge and concierge. For *Silhouette's* guests, this means the experience and attention to detail of Anca.

Thirteen days of sunshine and plain sailing to previously unvisited cities followed. A private tour of the amber restoration workshops at Catherine Palace outside St Petersburg was a highlight, while among the surprises were the pretty seaside town of Warnemünde and the warm welcome (marching band, flag waving, canon salute) in the obscure Danish port of Fredericia.

On board, I enjoyed destination lectures, hours in the spa and reading on the real lawn. The day's toughest decision was 'where should I dine tonight?' Anca always found me a table and I found my favourites: Luminae, for tranquil fine dining; the Lawn Club Grill for steaks and lobster; and the ship's top restaurant, Murano, for its chateaubriand.

Moving around the ship was effortless and attentive staff remembered my name and coffee preferences. Throughout the week Anca smoothed the way for all suite guests; twisting arms for dinner reservations, organising car seats for babies on excursions, and even magicking up a booth with no queue at the Russian border control.

Silhouette's Baltic itinerary was an on-paper success in every way, but it was the thoughtful and genuine service that made this journey sparkle. Celebrity's Suite Class experience is proof that a big ship really can do the small details □

Celebrity Silhouette's 12-night 'Scandinavia and Russia' cruise departs May 2, 2016. A Celebrity Suite costs from £7,637pp, including flights, transfers, meals and entertainment. 0844-493 2043; celebritycruises.co.uk

FROM TOP Warnemünde in Germany. Catherine Palace near St Petersburg, Russia

FJORD FOCUS

Festivals, fjords and a funicular railway are all part of the new five-night journey along the Norwegian coastline on board *Balmoral*, the newest and largest cruise ship in Fred Olsen's fleet. Departing from Newcastle, and shorter than the eight-day southern departure port itineraries, the 'Norwegian Festivals and Fjords' cruise is perfect for anyone wanting to minimise travel time while still exploring the many highlights of the region. From £599pp. Departing May 26, 2016. *0800-0355 242; fredolsencruises.com*



WORDS: KATE CROCKETT; LOUISA PARKER BOWLES. PHOTOGRAPHS: KATE CROCKETT

SEA IT TO BELIEVE IT

When it comes to luxury cruising, Regent Seven Seas Cruises rules the waves. A sophisticated new vessel, *Seven Seas Explorer*, is now set to join its impressive fleet

Regent Seven Seas is a slick outfit offering a carefully curated balance of distinguished service, refined elegance and once-in-a-lifetime voyages. Its extensive collection of unique itineraries offers globe-trotting guests the opportunity to discover the world's most show-stopping spectacles – think: far-flung corners of South America and gliding through icy Alaskan waters. Plus, every trip comes with the all-inclusive promise of return flights, transfers, dining (including alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks), 24-our room service and limitless on-shore excursions, without reaching for your wallet.

Next year, the Regent family is set to add to its already existing fleet of three – all of which boast a string of accolades. Stunning new sister ship *Seven Seas Explorer* will embark on her maiden voyage in July 2016. At 56,000 tonnes she is decidedly vast, but carries only 750 passengers meaning bountiful space pervades both on deck and in the well-appointed suites, all of which have their own balcony.











CLOCKWISE FROM TOP The Master Suite on *Seven Seas Explorer*. The ship's lobby. Compass Rose restaurant. The infinity plunge pool

Foodies will be thrilled to learn that three speciality restaurants are on board: Pacific Rim lays on traditional pan-Asian cuisine; Chartreuse offers a tantalising French menu, where you can dine beneath a ceiling appliquéd with silver leaf; and Prime 7 is a classic steakhouse. Or book into the Culinary Arts Kitchen to brush up on your cooking skills; akin to France's most prestigious schools, classes are inspired by destinations visited on *Seven Seas Explorer*'s watery routes.

Further afield the glossy Canyon Ranch spa boasts an aromatic steam and cold room, infrared sauna – the penetrating heat provides a deep detoxification – and offers muscle-melting massages. Round off a pampering session by reclining on the teak deck terrace or slip into the infinity plunge pool and idly take in the soaring seascapes.

It's qualities like these that solidify Regent Seven Seas firmly at the discerning end of the cruise market. Ultra-luxurious adventure beckons □

READER OFFER

Book a cruise with Regent and receive a limited edition Globe-Trotter suitcase (RRP £1,035). Simply book one of the Seven Seas Explorer® 2016 autumn/winter sailings by December 31, 2015 and quote 'House & Garden'.

T&Cs: offer applies to new Seven Seas Explorer® bookings made between September 3 and December 31, 2015. Not combinable with agent group promotions. Regent reserves the right to amend or withdraw this offer at any time.



Trips aboard the Seven Seas Explorer begin at £4,079pp. For more details or to book, call 02380-682168 or visit rssc.com/house

BOLD & BOUNTIFUL

The culinary abundance of the Mediterranean offers plentiful pickings for gourmets and oenophiles cruising its coastline

Though it may not always be the most restful experience, when done right, cruising the Mediterranean can be a wonderful way to get a snapshot of Europe. Oceania's 'Mediterranean Mosaic' voyage aboard the *Riviera*, for example, offers the possibility of seeing Rome one day, Florence the next, Monte Carlo the one after, followed by the whole of Provence via Marseille and finished off with sunny Barcelona.

The luxurious *Riviera* – with its capacity for 1,250 passengers, known in the industry as a 'mid-size' ship – has an extra, differently shaped string to its bow. *Riviera* has established a proper cookery school at sea with a demonstration kitchen equipped with 24 granite-topped work-stations for cooks of all standards and a chef-led programme of lessons, tips, market visits, and tours of farms and wineries that forge a meaningful cultural connection with the various ports of call.

The Culinary Discovery Tours are among the most popular offered by the cruise line so it's essential to sign up early. The Marseille tour I joined was led by Noelle Barille, an authoritative American chef with Italian roots, comfortably at home discussing Mediterranean/Provençal produce and cooking. This was fertile ground; at the market in the small port of Sanary-sur-Mer we feasted our eyes on sea-fresh oysters, rainbows of *herbes de Provence* and tapenades, cheeses, and golden mountains of apricots and melons. Noelle gave us the job of buying the ingredients we would need for the lesson later on board – a level of engagement you wouldn't find on many cruise tours.

From here we travelled inland to Domaine Souviou, a charming, quintessentially Provençal *mas* (farmhouse) of dappled stone surrounded by its own estate of vines, centuries-old olive trees and lavender swaying idly in the warm breeze. Here, the venerated local chef Guy Gedda treated us to the region's best food: *rouget* (red mullet) with garlic, parsley and tomato; lamb *daube* (stew) slow-cooked for four hours in red wine; dark chocolate mousse tart, like truffle on a caramel crust, all served with tastings of the Domaine's wines. Suitably inspired, we reconvened at the ship's culinary centre for a lesson with Noelle: shrimp Provençal, ratatouille, mini apple tartlets - and how to chop with a really sharp knife like a trained chef.

Oceania's other epicurean offerings were equally carefully curated. Besides the Grand Terrace dining room – a pale gold salon – there were four, smaller 'concept' restaurants. At Red Ginger – pan-Asian in an authentically red-lacquered interior – we were served seared tuna with wakame; at the Italian, Toscana, I loved the trolley of oils and balsamic vinegars from which you could blend your own dip for parmesan profiteroles; Restaurant Jacques focused on the French tradition; while Polo Grill, my favourite, did classic American surf and turf.

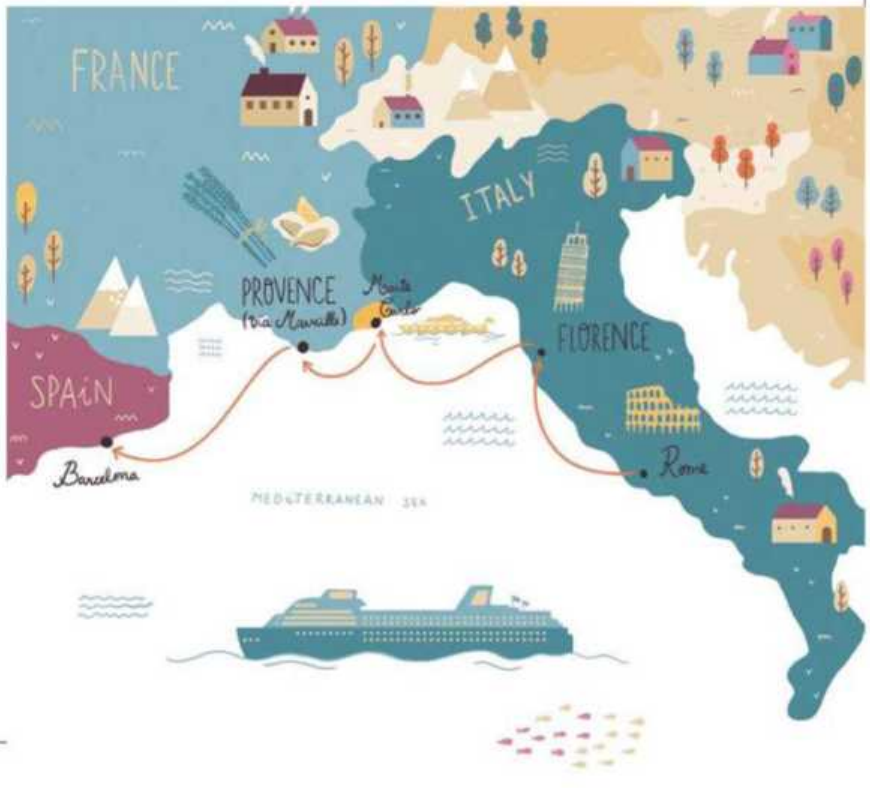
The *Riviera* was not a ship to do things by halves. The suites were spacious and stylish; service was tirelessly efficient; the cabarets sparkled. It felt buzzy but not overcrowded. When we came to sail away from Monte Carlo, the harbour glittering with superyachts, the *Riviera* lit up, winked and performed a perfect 360-degree pirouette before charting a course into the night □

An eight-night 'Mediterranean Mosaic' cruise costs from £1,559pp including return UK flights, meals, gratuities and soft drinks. 0845-505 1920; oceaniacruises.com



BAKE OFF ON BOARD

Enthusiastic amateurs and professional chefs are enjoying gourmet experiences on board P&O Cruises' newest ship, *Britannia*. Following her stint in the Cookery Club this year, Mary Berry (pictured), declared: 'Cooking and baking out at sea was a first for me and very exciting. The views are stunning and the set up is excellent with 12 stations, TV screens and top-notch equipment.' In 2016, Atul Kochhar, Eric Lanlard, Marco Pierre White, Olly Smith and James Martin will be on board *Britannia* to deliver a culinary punch. *0843-374 0111; pocruises.co.uk*



WORDS: KATE PATRICK; LOUISA PARKER BOWLES. ILLUSTRATION: ANA SEIXAS

A NEW REIGN

Named after the King of the Netherlands and promising to delight even the most discerning traveller, Holland America Line's new ship *MS Koningsdam* is set to rule the seas next year



When *MS Koningsdam* launches in February 2016, she will mark an impressive evolution in Holland America Line's revered 143-year history. Combining the world's most enticing destinations with a luxurious and culturally enriching on board experience, *MS Koningsdam* is set to become the go-to cruise ship for savvy travellers with a taste for the finer things in life.

The mid-size, Pinnacle class, 2,650-guest ship blends contemporary styling with the company's classic elegance. The pre-eminent interior designer, Adam D Tihany, has been at the helm of the ship's interior features and his trademark ability to translate clients' needs into beautiful, fluid and light-filled spaces is apparent throughout. The result is a different holiday experience that is akin to staying in a luxury hotel, with the benefit of time spent in thrilling cities, UNESCO World Heritage sites or luxury resorts.

The most recent launch of any major cruise line to sail Europe, *MS Koningsdam* will leave for her maiden voyage to the azure waters of the Mediterranean in April 2016. She will take in the iconic sights of the region before continuing on a series of 12-day Greece, Turkey and Iberian sailings throughout May. The debut cruises will include overnight stays and days exploring culturally vibrant capitals, charming villages and beautiful beaches. Her summer in Northern Europe will feature spectacular fjords, Icelandic geysers and stunning Baltic cities. The ship will then spend the winter in the Southern Caribbean, offering leisurely 10 and 11-night cruises from Fort Lauderdale that include visits to Half Moon Cay, Holland America Line's very own idyllic private island – only three per cent of which is developed.



FROM ABOVE Holland America Line ship sails past Half Moon Cay, The Bahamas. The Pinnacle Grill. A demonstration in the Culinary Arts Centre. *MS Koningsdam*. Peterhof Palace, St Petersburg

Can the amenities of a new ship really compete with such an impressive roll call of destinations? Yes, when that ship belongs to Holland America Line. *MS Koningsdam* sets a new standard in the company's five-star tradition. But while she will boast all the creature comforts you'd expect, it's the cultural programmes and culinary innovations that are set to surprise guests. Outstanding musicians will perform afternoon recitals and evening chamber music, while the 'On Location' offering will bring local flavours on board (think: Greek-style mezze on deck as you sail away from Santorini). Plus, a new immersive dining concept, 'Dinner at the Culinary Arts Centre', will see chefs prepare artisanal dishes in the show kitchen so that guests can learn cooking skills from top professionals.

The magnificent *MS Koningsdam* will crown a fleet that is already making waves for all the right reasons □

To book your holiday with Holland America Line visit your travel agent, call 0843-374 2300 or visit hollandamerica.com

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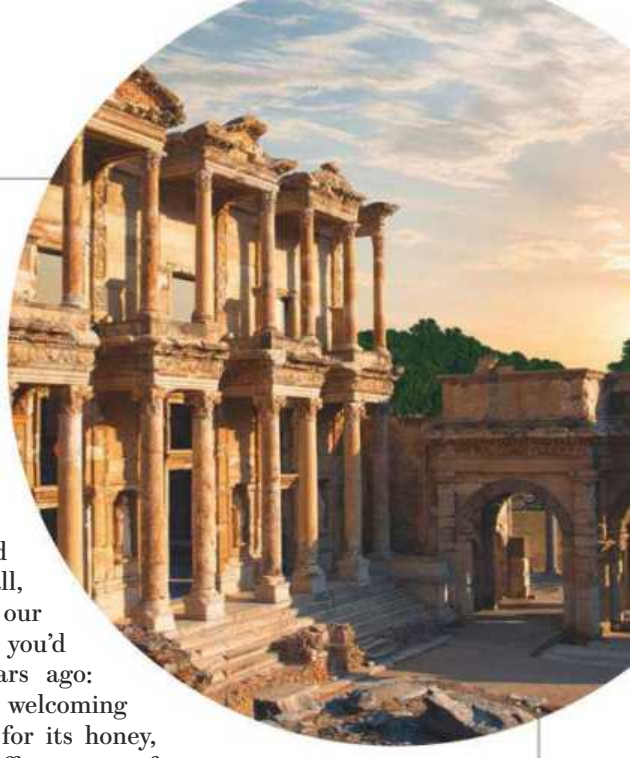
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HOME & AWAY

Suites, service and standout destinations delight in equal measure during a journey by ship through Greece and Turkey



The Roman library of Celsus at Ephesus, an ancient city near Kusadasi in Turkey

Can a ship feel like home? Yes, and quickly, too, if that ship belongs to Seabourn. Within 24 hours of stepping on board the *Odyssey*, a sleek 450-passenger vessel, we felt settled in. It helped that our suite resembled a well-designed urban crash-pad, with a marble bathroom, walk-in clothes closet, roomy sleeping and living areas, and a balcony with sun loungers – naturally, with fantastic views. But what really helped us to relax so quickly into life at sea was the camaraderie among the guests (85 per cent of them have travelled with Seabourn before), and the warmth of the staff.

Seabourn is a premier cruise line and while it offers all the creature comforts you'd expect, its service leans towards friendliness, rather than starchy formality. The staff – 344 of them to 444 guests on our cruise – are energetic, socially self-assured, and bear all the hallmarks of people who are going places – and not just geographically. Michael Prantz, hotel director of the *Odyssey*, says Seabourn 'values personal skills as highly as professional experience' – and it shows in the crew's confident smiles and conversation.

Our eight-night trip departed from Athens and finished in Istanbul, calling at Spetses, Agios Nikolaos on Crete, Bodrum on the Turkish coast, Mykonos, Kusadasi, and the Greek island Lemnos. The weather in late April was kind; we enjoyed days hot enough to merit a hat, and cool evenings on deck. There was usually some pre-dinner event at which to socialise with other guests – a poolside opera recital or a gathering in the large open-air patio bar, hosted by the gregarious Scottish captain, David Bathgate, with Greek and Turkish specialities from hot-food buffets. And copious amounts of Champagne – a non-vintage Nicolas Feuillatte. The four restaurants, overseen by head chef Kurt Timmermans, are excellent, and offer vegetarian and light options.

The most rewarding stops were both quiet, and both in Greece: Spetses and Lemnos. The first is a small island with a pretty, eponymous coastal town lined with romantic nineteenth-century mansions. We walked into the island's verdant hills along a rough country track, passing fields dotted with wild flowers and grazing horses, and small, serene churches. Lemnos, our penultimate stop, was how you'd imagine Corfu was 60 years ago: a sparsely populated yet welcoming agricultural island, famous for its honey, cheese and wine. Seabourn offers a tour of Lemnos in your own 4x4 – a bone-rattling drive through wild countryside blazing with poppies, and up stony mountain roads to a summit that offers broad views across the island. To the north lie strange inland sand dunes and a bird sanctuary; to the south a moving Commonwealth war cemetery, where many of the dead of Gallipoli lie. Both are worth seeing.

But the standout memory was perhaps Ephesus, near Kusadasi. We saw the beautiful ancient city, with its vast 25,000-seat Roman amphitheatre, twice: first by day, and again in the evening for a classical concert among the Classical ghosts: a Turkish chamber orchestra played Mozart, Bach and Ravel as a rose-pink sun slowly sank below the Arcadian Way, a road travelled by St Paul, Mark Antony and Cleopatra, and Constantine the Great.

It was sometimes difficult leaving these places – so steeped in history, so far removed from modern life – but spotting the *Odyssey* in port cured that. Even Captain Bathgate, who has been at sea since the age of 16, says she is 'the most beautiful ship' he has ever sailed. Unlike so many unprepossessing cruisers, the *Odyssey* is lean and elegant: her lines gracefully pointing forward, her decks curved and stepped, her sides punctuated with balconies, giving an impression of lightness and transparency. Above all, she sparkles and gleams in the sun; a brilliant arrow of white against the blue of the Aegean. She, and her genial staff, make a very welcoming home □

The seven-night 'Greek Isles and Ephesus' cruise on Seabourn Odyssey departs May 28, 2016. From £3,299pp, cruise only. 0843-373 2000; seabourn.co.uk



ELEGANCE AFLOAT

Like her three sisters – *Le Boreal*, *L'Austral* and *Le Soleal* – *Le Lyrial* has been designed for upscale, yacht-like cruising to beautiful regions around the world. Launched in April 2015, *Le Lyrial* is the newest ship from French company Ponant and will start 2016 in the Antarctic, before going up the east coast of South America to the Caribbean and crossing the Atlantic towards the south of Spain at the beginning of April. *0800-980 4027; ponant.com* □

WORDS: KATE QUILL; LOUISA PARKER BOWLES. PHOTOGRAPHS: ISTOCK, FRANCOISE LEFEBVRE

A DIFFERENT VIEW

Thanks to its destination-led ocean and river cruises – complete with spacious staterooms, fine food and plenty of time in port – Viking is making waves in the world of cruising



Viking's ocean and river cruises will change your views on cruising forever. That's because Viking prides itself on taking a different approach to other cruise lines: its voyages offer supreme comfort and fine food in beautifully designed ships, and destination-led itineraries that appeal to the independent, curious traveller. On a Viking cruise, what you experience on shore is as important as what you experience on board. Voyages will take you beneath the skin of a country. Its ships tend to spend longer in ports and that's why Viking offers expert guides and privileged experiences to help you get the most out of your visit.

OCEAN VOYAGES

Viking Star is one of three luxury ocean-going vessels in the company's fleet. Inspired by what guests on the river cruises said they loved best about Viking, it has employed the finest, ecologically minded Scandinavian design to create a spectacular small ship. Viking Star boasts all-verandah staterooms, and is human in scale, with spacious, contemporary interiors maximising natural light. Indeed, it offers more al-fresco dining experiences than any ship at sea. Viking Star accommodates just 930 guests, and offers 17 ocean itineraries around Northern Europe, the Baltic and the Mediterranean. Try, for example, a trip around southern Europe, such as a Grand Mediterranean Tour that takes in Spain, France and Italy, and five beautiful, idiosyncratic islands: Corsica, Malta, Sicily, Sardinia and Mallorca.

RIVER JOURNEYS

Just like Viking Star, the company's classic river cruises on board one of its beautiful Longships combine comfort and relaxation in spacious, elegant vessels, with destination-focused experiences. Viking's Longships



boast floor-to-ceiling windows, a choice of indoor and outdoor dining, quiet, well-appointed staterooms and regionally focused food and wine.

Itineraries on Viking's Longships take in the best of Europe and Russia, such as the Danube Waltz, which travels through four of Europe's most fascinating countries along the Danube River: Austria, Germany, Hungary and Slovakia. Or explore the dreamy landscapes of Burgundy and Provence on a Portraits of Southern France voyage, travelling along the Saône and Rhône Rivers. The magnificent Waterways of the Tsars, meanwhile, is a 13-day cruise of Russia's rivers, taking in the best of Moscow and St Petersburg, and the picturesque towns of Russia's Golden Ring, such as Yaroslavl and Uglich.

FINE FOOD, FABULOUS SERVICE

Cuisine always features regional food, using locally sourced ingredients that reflects the destination being visited. This can range from a delicious panzanella – a traditional Tuscan salad – to Basque tapas, Nordic gravlax and Dubrovnik oysters and mussels. There are more familiar options, too, such as classics (burgers, rib-eye steaks) and, of course, light, healthy menus. All menus are accompanied by specially selected wines, while the ships' relaxed bars serve beers, spirits and expertly mixed cocktails. Under the guidance of the company's Swiss-trained management team, Viking staff are consummate professionals providing an efficient, discreet service. But they all have that X-factor, too, that makes them stand out: naturally warm with a genuine desire to please.

All this, you might think, comes at a price. However, Viking firmly believes that its guests should relax, rather than worry about budgets, and it prides itself on providing a value-for-money holiday. Thus, most things are included in the initial fare. Depending on the journey, the fare might include return air travel from the UK plus transfers, wines, beers and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, complimentary on-board Wi-Fi, guided shore excursions and port charges.

Discover what's different about a Viking cruise. If you love discovery as much as you love luxury, if you like to get away from the crowds, and don't believe such a journey should break the bank, Viking's ocean and river cruises are tailor-made for you.







SEE MORE, EXPERIENCE MORE

The carefully crafted itineraries and shore excursions focus on art, architecture, food, culture and customs. Join the chef as he shops at local markets, go behind the scenes at a theatre, or beat the crowds by gaining access to a private collection at a museum.



For more information, call 0800 652 2469 or visit vikingcruises.co.uk

READER OFFER

House & Garden readers will receive a complimentary bottle of champagne in a Viking Stateroom if they quote 'House & Garden' when booking.

CRUISE COLLECTION

What to pack to look the part on board new cruises and ships

▼CLEAR VISION

Take in the magnificent vistas of the Galápagos on board the new expedition ship *Santa Cruz II* with these 'CL Pocket 8x25' binoculars by Swarovski Optik, £560. *santacruz galapagoscruise.com | swarovskioptik.com*

◀DIVE IN

The 'J12' white ceramic and steel watch by Chanel, £3,375, is water-resistant to a depth of 200 metres, perfect for exploring the underwater world and historical treasures of Egypt and Jordan on the new 'Kings and Pharaohs' cruise from Steppes Travel. *steppestravel.co.uk | chanel.com*



◀COTTON ON

Those in the know are booking fully crewed yachts with Incrediblue. Stay cool and colourful in this 'Porto Vecchio' pleated cotton shirt dress by Heidi Klein, £140, as a knowledgeable captain guides you through the Mediterranean's most beautiful waters. With itineraries in Thailand, Italy and Montenegro launching later this year, it's the perfect time to get on board. *incrediblue.com | heidiklein.com*

➤PASSPORT TO CHIC

The 'Atlas' zip currency case, £250, from Smythson is perfect for Crystal Cruises' epic 2018 global itineraries. *crystalcruises.co.uk | smythson.com*

➤KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

The 'Spirit of Africa' luxury land, cruise and rail package from Mundy Cruising includes a visit to Cape Town, a rail journey through vineyards and a flight over Victoria Falls. Move easily and elegantly between the many scenic highlights with this 'Topas' titanium suitcase by Rimowa, £840. *mundycruising.co.uk | selfridges.com*

▲SHORE THING

The 'Glorious Gardens & Chelsea Flower Show' cruise from RHS Garden Holidays includes shore excursions to exceptional gardens. Pack everything you need for a day at the 2016 Chelsea Flower Show, or a stroll in the gardens of impressionist painter Claude Monet in Giverny, into this 'Iphis' patchwork tote bag, £395, from Liberty. *rhsgardenholidays.com liberty.co.uk* □

WORDS: LOUISA PARKER BOWLES

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STOCKISTS

Merchandise from these companies is featured editorially in this issue. Information is checked at the time of going to press, but *House & Garden* cannot guarantee that prices will not change or items will be in stock at the time of publication.



Walnut utensils, by Julian Watts, £75 each, from The Cold Press. *For further inspiration, see 'Notebook'*

A–B

Abbott & Boyd *020-7351 9985; abbottandboyd.co.uk*
Alessi *020-7518 9090; alessi.com*
Aodh Furniture *aodh.eu*
Archie Proudfoot *07736-072535; archieproudfoot.com*
Arieta Antiques *020-7243 1074*
Armani Casa *armanicasa.com*
Barbed *020-8878 1994; barbed.co.uk*
Bernard Thorp *020-7352 5745; bernardthorp.com*
Broste *00-45-36 39 03 00; brostecopenhagen.com*

C–D

Carpenters Workshop Gallery *020-3051 5939; carpentersworkshopgallery.com*
Christopher Farr Cloth *020-7349 0888; christopherfarrcloth.com*
Clivework *020-8144 8300; clivework.com*
The Cold Press *01263-711145; thecoldpress.com*
Cole & Son *020-7376 4628; cole-and-son.com*
Colefax and Fowler *020-8874 6484; colefax.com*
The Conran Shop *0844-848 4000; conranshop.co.uk*
Cox London *020-8880 3923; coxlondon.com*
David Mellor *020-7730 4259; davidmellordesign.com*
Dedar *020-7351 9939; dedar.com*
Designers Guild *020-7893 7400; designersguild.com*
Dimore Studio *00-39-02 36 53 70 88; dimorestudio.eu*

E–F

Egg *020-7235 9315; eggtrading.com*
Folklore *020-7354 9333; shopfolklore.com*
Fox Linton *020-7368 7700; foxlinton.com*

G–H

Gallotti & Radice *gallottiradice.it*
George Spencer Designs *020-7584 3003; georgespencer.com*
Goodhood *020-7729 3600; goodhoodstore.com*
G P & J Baker *01202-266700; gpandjbaker.com*
Guinevere Antiques *020-7736 2917; guinevere.co.uk*
Habitat *0844-499 1122; habitat.co.uk*
Halsted *halsteddesign.com*
Harlequin London *020-7384 1911; harlequin-london.com*
Hem *hem.com*
Hermès *020-7098 1888 uk.hermes.com*
Homebase *0345-077 8888; homebase.co.uk*
Howe *020-7730 7987; howelondon.com*

I–J

Ikea *020-3645 0000; ikea.com*
Jessica Light *020-7256 1157; jessicalight.co.uk*

K–L

KADK *kadk.dk*
Kirkby Design *01623-750005; kirkbydesign.com*
Kinnasand *kinnasand.com*
Kravet *020-7795 0110; kravet.com*
Language of Flora *languageofflora.bigcartel.com*
Lassco *020-7394 2100; lassco.co.uk*
Liberty *020-7734 1234; liberty.co.uk*
Linwood *01425-461176; linwoodfabric.com*

M–N

Margo Selby *01227-282758; margoselby.com*
Marimekko *marimekko.com*
Maud and Mabel *020-3659 6387; maudandmabel.com*
Max Rollitt *01962-791124; maxrollitt.com*
M Charpentier Antiques *020-8617 1575; mcharpentier.com*
McWhirter Antiques *020-7351 5399; jamesmcwhirter.com*
Mint *020-7225 2228; mintshop.co.uk*
Momosan Shop *momosanshop.bigcartel.com*
The New Craftsmen *020-7148 3190; thenewcraftsmen.com*
Nicholas Herbert *020-7376 5596; nicholasherbert.com*
Nobilis *nobilis.fr*
Northern Lighting *00-47-40 00 70 37; northernlighting.no*

O–P

Objects of Use *01865-241705; objectsofuse.com*
Osborne & Little *020-8812 3123; osborneandlittle.com*
Pentreath & Hall *020-7430 2526; pentreath-hall.com*
Pierre Frey *020-7376 5599; pierrefrey.com*
Pillo London *pillolondon.com*
Puckhaber *020-3304 7327; puckhaberdecorativeantiques.com*

Q–R

Ralph Lauren Home *020-7535 4600; ralphlaurenhome.com*
RE *01434-634567; re-foundobjects.com*
Redloh House Fabrics *020-7371 7787; redlohhousefabrics.com*
Riedel *riedel.com*
Romo *01623-756699; romo.com*
Rubelli *020-7349 1590; rubelli.com*
Rüskasa *ruskasa.com*

S–T

Sahco *020-7352 6168; sahco.de*
Samuel & Sons *020-7351 5153; samuelandsons.com*
Sanderson *sanderson-uk.com*
Sarah Campbell Designs *sarahcampbelldesigns.com*
SCP *020-7739 1869; scp.co.uk*
The Shop Floor Project *01229-584537; theshopfloorproject.com*
Sigmar *020-7751 5801; sigmarlondon.com*
Stark *020-7751 5858; starcarpet.co.uk*
Soane *020-7730 6400; soane.co.uk*
Sous Chef *0800-270 7591; souschef.co.uk*
Talisman *020-7730 7800; talismanlondon.com*
Tierra Negra *0131-660 1998; tierranegra.co.uk*
Tissus d'Hélène *020-7352 9977; tissusdhelene.co.uk*
TON *00-42-057 332 5111; ton.eu*
Turnell & Gigon *020-7259 7280; turnellandgigon.com*

W–Z

Willer *020-7937 3518; willer.co.uk*
Wrong for Hay *01225-461409; wrongforhay.com*
Vanderhurd *020-7313 5400; vanderhurd.com*
Verreum *00-42-022 231 5739; verreum.com*
Viaduct *020-7278 8456; viaduct.co.uk*
Yéol *yeol.org*
Zimmer + Rohde *020-7351 7115; zimmer-rohde.com*
Zoffany *0844-543 4748; zoffany.com* □

JODY TODD

Decorex Preview

CHLOE ALBERRY, STAND C44



Chloe Alberry specialises in door and cabinet fittings. Based in Londons Notting hill her shop is a treasure trove of handles and accessories not found elsewhere. Her latest collection utilises fossilised wood and crystal Drusy. Exhibiting at Decorex stand C44, Shop: 84 Portobello Road, London, W11. Call 020 7727 0707 or visit www.chloealberry.com



TATIANA TAFUR, STAND E20

Tatiana Tafur's Decorex Stand will be showcasing their new designs in wallcovering and verre églomisé along with new pieces of furniture. For more information, email Sales@tatianatafur.com call 020 7731 3777 or visit www.tatianatafur.com

JULIAN CHICHESTER, STAND E33



By adding a contemporary touch to classic designs from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, Julian Chichester creates beautiful furniture that champions the essence of English eclectic elegance. See the new collection on Stand E33, visit www.julianchichester.com or call 020 7622 2928.

MARI IANIQ, STAND K56A



is a high-end brand of furniture, lighting and accessories providing bespoke pieces and solutions for luxury interiors. Inspired by Haute Couture and collectable jewellery, combining classical and Art Deco influences – MARI IANIQ creations are truly unique and timeless. Featuring at Decorex 2015, a limited edition of this superb COCO armchair, in a limited Coco Chanel inspired edition. For more information, visit www.mariianiq.com or call 07951 228666.



ROBEYS, STAND H27

The Piazzetta Oslo not only looks stunning in white majolica panels but also is impressive from any angle. Its 360° view of the fire, combined with electrically operated rise and fall glass creates a fantastic centrepiece to your living room. Exclusively available through Robeys. Call 01773 820940 or visit www.robeys.co.uk to find out more.



PAUL MONTGOMERY STUDIO STAND G23A

has created hand-painted murals for over 40 years, specialising in Chinoiserie and European panoramic murals for discerning clientele, luxury hotels and private villas worldwide. The company is known for their superior talent, uncompromised quality and exemplary customer service. Visit www.paulmontgomery.com or call 001 540 337 6600 for more information.



BAZAAR VELVET, STAND K48

They will be launching their amazing new luxury rugs, Bohemia and Pacha, from their Eklektic collection this year at Decorex 2015. They have created new designs and colourways that push the boundaries of a hand knotted rug, and each is handmade by the most skilled weavers from Rajasthan. The use of various colour shades of multiply wool and silk create a gorgeous water colour effect. Combining this with an intricate high and low pile gives stunning results. Visit them at the stand, at www.bazaarvelvet.com or call 020 7736 9693.

ATLANTICO RUGS, STAND A77



Atlantico Rugs create exclusive handmade tapestry rugs in pure wool. Designs range from traditional classic florals to modern contemporary linear patterns. For more information, contact anne@atlanticorugs.com visit www.atlanticorugs.com or call 020 8780 5288.



RAPTURE & WRIGHT, STAND F37

Artisan studio Rapture & Wright adapt age old hand printing techniques in clever ways to make a range of fabrics and wallpapers for contemporary and classical tastes alike. Visit www.raptureandwright.co.uk or call 01608 652442 for more information.



OSSOWSKI, STAND D19

Ossowski provide exceptional giltwood mirrors, both antique and bespoke. Their antique mirrors are fine examples of high quality and design. Ossowski bespoke mirrors are hand-carved and water-gilt in the U.K. and either based on good antique ones, historical designs (including those held by Sir John Soane's Museum), or clients' own ideas. Visit www.ossowski.co.uk or call 020 7730 3256.

ALTERNATIVE FLOORING STAND C21



Celebrated for its creative flair, high quality and authentic voice. Alternative's award-winning, modern mix of natural fibre and wool collections explore texture, pattern and colour. Leading the luxury patterned carpet revival, exciting designs by Ben Pentreath, Ashley Hicks and Margo Selby will take centre stage. Call 01264 335111 or visit www.alternativeflooring.com



LINLEY, STAND D28A

Celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, LINLEY is recognised as a world leader in the design and production of furniture, upholstery, home accessories, fitted cabinetry and kitchens. See LINLEY at Decorex International, Stand D28A. Visit www.davidlinley.com or call 020 7730 7300.



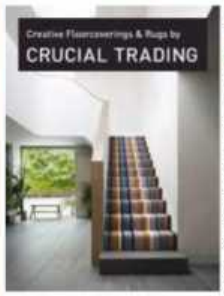
SIR WILLIAM BENTLEY BILLIARDS, STAND G39

Specialists in fine Antique Billiards; restoration, renovation and reproduction. Designers and makers of beautiful billiard tables and multi-purpose dining or boardroom tables, matching accessories and stunning lighting. Bespoke designs and craftsmanship of the highest quality make them the choice of Interior Designers. Handmade in England, delivered and installed worldwide. For more information, visit www.billiards.co.uk or call 01264 731 210.



A PLACE IN THE GARDEN STAND K60

A Place In The Garden presents the new and traditional version of their popular Coachlamp, with prices starting from £185. For more information, call 01403 864866 or visit www.aplaceinthegarden.co.uk



CRUCIAL TRADING, STAND F23

Crucial Trading have been producing creative floorcoverings and rugs for almost 30 years and with designs available in wool, plant or mixed fibres each range has been made to the highest standards. Crucial Trading are also thrilled to be showcasing its new colour ways for the Audrey collection. See them at the stand, visit www.crucial-trading.com or call 01562 743 747.

SIMON ORRELL DESIGNS, STAND F26



Come and see the array of unique, luxury finishes that Simon Orrell Designs offers for bespoke furniture and home accessories including straw marquetry (shown), shagreen, parchment, mica and shell finishes such as penshell and violet oyster. Recreate Art Deco glamour! Visit www.simonorrelldesigns.com or call 020 7371 9339 for more information.

Advertisers should contact 020 7499 9080 ext. 3705

Take Your Seats...





















1. SOFAS AND STUFF offer an elegant, supremely comfortable collection of very beautiful British handmade sofas, chairs and sofa beds that look far more expensive than their price tag. Traditional hardwood frames and sprung upholstery are guaranteed for life, delivery is in 5 weeks and a no-quibble returns policy is reassuring. Be guided through a cornucopia of fabric options with friendly, expert advisers in rural barn showrooms and new city-centre locations. Shown here is the Chiddingfold Sofa in Liberty Patricia Spice, now £2205. Buy online at www.sofasandstuff.com or call 0808 1783211 for more information.

2. This gorgeous love seat is one of their favourites at **HICKS & HICKS.** Beautifully covered in a neutral cream fabric which folds with the button detail perfectly. Available in two sizes, love seat and 3 seat sofa. From £699.00 For more information call 01872 530761 or visit their website at www.hicksandhicks.com

3. OTTOMAN EMPIRE manufactures high quality ottomans and footstools. Each piece is hand crafted to meet the client's specifications and can be built to any size. They love talking ottomans and footstools so call for advice! Call 01788 552010, email sales@ottomanempire.co.uk or visit www.ottomanempire.co.uk for more information.

4. SECOLARI & CO offers the of a kind Italian Designer prototype sofa. It can become a two separate seater linked by a hidden table. Fully washable cotton and linen fabric. Perfect for contemporary stylish living. For more information, visit www.Secolariandco.com or call 01273 472042.

5. CHAPEL STREET LONDON, STAND B 34. They will be launching an exciting new Mid Century furniture range to add to their current collection at this years' Decorex at Syon Park. Visit them on their stand B34 to view these new designs. For all enquiries, call 020 8576 6644 or visit www.chapelstreetlondon.

6. OLD BOOT SOFAS, English handcrafted leather sofas. Chester starts from £1490 available in various colours and sizes, extremely comfy, exclusive leather with free UK delivery within two weeks. To receive £100 discount reducing the sofa to £1390 visit www.oldbootsofas.com or call 020 7736 3738 and use code HG100.

7. The Fenton dining chair is part of a new collection of grey oak furniture from **CLOCK HOUSE**. It can be made to order in any fabric. To see their full range, please visit their stand at Decorex A50, call 01620 842870 or visit www.clockhouse-furniture.com

8. Add a sophisticated touch to your living room thanks to **MODECOR**. The company is offering readers a generous price for its iconic reproduction 1956 Charles Eames lounge chair and ottoman, reducing the price from £775 to just £550. This handsome chair is available in a choice of finishes including; palisander rosewood (pictured), oak plywood or walnut wood, as well as black (pictured), brown or white leather upholstery. To view the full range or to claim your offer, visit www.modecor.co.uk or call 020 3239 3902 and use code HOME7 before 31/10/2015. Whilst stocks last.

9. WILLOW & HALL design and sell quality upholstered living and bedroom furniture, handmade by craftsmen in Wiltshire. Designs are available in a large selection of fabrics and leathers. Sofa Beds come with three 14cm deep mattress options, perfect for occasional or everyday use. Visit www.willowandhall.co.uk/house or call 0845 468 0577 for free samples, a catalogue and showroom information. Use code H&G24915 by 24 September 15 to receive a further 5 per cent off current discounts, leading to 35 per cent lower prices than high-street retailers. Free delivery in around 4 weeks for most of the UK Mainland and 14-day free returns on all items, whatever your customisation.

10. WELCHOME is a design studio and luxury furniture manufacturer, which creates spaces suitable for every requirements. Shown is the smart and sophisticated "Noir" sofa. For more information call their Chelsea Creek showroom at 0207 610 9108 or visit www.welchome.co.uk





















11. BALMAIN AND BALMAIN are makers of upholstered sofas, chairs, armchairs and stools that specialise in unusual and bespoke pieces. Each piece is handmade to order by craftsmen using the best skills and materials. The sofas and chairs can be seen at their showroom near Hungerford in the Wiltshire Downs or by visiting the website www.balmainandbalmain.com Call Balmain and Balmain on 01672 870414 for more information.

12. HOWARD CHAIRS are internationally renowned as makers of beautiful upholstered furniture. Each piece is painstakingly hand-sprung and stitched in their own workshop, using traditional methods and the best raw materials. Established in 1825, the fine attention-to-detail and craftsmanship will last for generations. Clients can select from their collection or they can make to your own specification. They also provide a soft furnishings service including drapes and walling. Call 020 7482 2156 or visit their showroom at 30-31 Lyme Street, London NW1 0EE. View their website at www.howardchairs.com or email info@howardchairs.com

13. JONATHAN CHARLES is a maker of antique replica and transitional furniture. Inspiration is gathered from a variety of sources – original antiques, classic wallpaper or fabric designs, architecture, a rare object or jewellery. With a meticulous eye for detail, Jonathan Charles produces furniture using age-old techniques, which breathe soul and quality into each design. To find out more, visit the Jonathan Charles London Showroom 533 Kings Road, Chelsea, London SW10 0TZ, call 020 7351 1922 email London@jonathancharles.com or visit www.jonathancharles.com

14. LEATHER CHAIRS OF BATH have been specialising in English handmade traditional leather sofas and chairs for nearly 30 years. Visit their showroom at 600 King's Rd, London, in the Chelsea Design Quarter, or take a look at www.leatherchairs.co.uk or call 020 7731 1198 for a chat.

15. WALLACE SACKS Iconic Furniture. True to the original proportions, their reproduction of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's Barcelona chair is constructed with a hand-buffed, stainless-steel frame and sumptuous leather cushion. Normally £1245, they are offering readers who visit www.wallacesacks.com a 60% discount to just £498 by entering code HGOCT in the checkout or call 0800 0114642.

16. Reference some of this season's chicest trends with a beautiful bespoke sofa or chair from **MULTIYORK**. With over 50 styles to choose from, each piece is handmade in Norfolk and is available in a wide choice of fabrics including designer ranges with High-Street fashion brand Monsoon, Linwood and Sanderson as well as Multiyork's in-house Studio Collection. Call 0333 358 3325 or visit www.multiyork.co.uk for more information.

17. ART REBELLION proudly presents Mini car furniture. Single/double seaters, Mini bars, Mini beds and Mini theatres created by award winning UK artist George Ioannou. For their extensive range of furniture and artworks, visit www.artrebellion.co.uk or call 020 8668 0007 to find out more.

18. Dupre-Lafon inspired dining chairs, by exceptional London based designers, makers and finishers **RUPERT BEVAN LTD.** Call 020 7731 1919; or to see more examples of their bespoke furniture and interior finishes visit the Queens Park Design District exhibition during London Design Festival or go to www.rupertbevan.com to find out more.

19. DINING CHAIR COMPANY is dedicated to producing the highest quality dining chairs at competitive prices. Their chairs are made to order with your own choice of wood, fabric and trim. They offer a bespoke service, creating original designs where required. To find out more, visit www.diningchair.co.uk or contact them on 020 7259 0422.

20. STOCKS AND CHAIRS ANTIQUES COLLECTION is a long-established family-owned business, specialising in the finest English antique furniture. Stocks and Chairs also produces its own range of bespoke hand-dyed classic leather chair and settees. Visit the website to see their beautiful creations at www.stocksandchairsantiques.com or call 07970 010512 for more details. Stocks and Chairs deliver worldwide.

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The Autumn Collection...

























1. DU MAURIER WATCHES. Diamonds, rose gold and mother of pearl take centre stage on this stunning, 'Rebecca' ladies watch. This fabulous, Swiss-made, limited edition timepiece will add elegance and a bit of sparkle to every occasion. Rebecca ladies watch £485. See the full collection at www.dumaurierwatches.com or call 0845 519 3074.

2. BLUE VELVET, the home of contemporary and luxury footwear, direct from the heart of Europe. Always one step ahead, they have established themselves on their quality and first-rate service. Buy online at www.bluevelvetshoes.com visit them at 174 Kings Road, SW3 4UP or call 020 7376 7442 to find out more.

3. THE WATCH AGENCY specialise in buying and selling new, ex display and pre owned watches by the world's leading watchmakers, including Rolex, Cartier, Patek Philippe, and Jaeger Le Coultre. All jewellery also available at large discounts. Pictured is a ladies 18ct Gold Rolex Datejust on President Bracelet with Diamond set Bezel Dial, Lugs and Bracelet. New £38,200. As new £9,995. With prices starting from under half of retail, ensure that you speak to one of their watch and jewellery experts to get the best for less. Call 01702 395100 or visit www.watchagency.co.uk for more information.

4. The **SILVARIOUS** range is all about the pleasure of shopping and finding individually styled distinctive timeless sterling silver jewellery and gifts. Designs that are creatively infused with personality that you will lovingly treasure forever. Whether shopping online or visiting one of their prestigious branches in the beautiful Derbyshire Peak District be assured of superb quality, design and customer service. Visit www.silvarious.com or call 01628 810028 for more information.

5. DIANA PORTER CONTEMPORARY JEWELLERY. British jewellery designer, Diana Porter, specialises in beautifully handcrafted, unique pieces. Diana works to commission, creating one off designs, hand etching customers own words onto the jewellery and re-working clients existing pieces. Call 0117 909 0225, email web@dianaporter.co.uk or visit www.dianaporter.co.uk for more information.

6. COBRA & BELLAMY make affordable, classically designed watches conveying timeless elegance. Pictured is the Hunter watch at £99, retro in style reminiscent of the 1960's. Its square face comes in a white or antique finish with a second hand set in a stainless steel case. Here is a quote from Sienna Miller who wore the Hunter watch when she was a guest on Top Gear "Cobra & Bellamy watches are classic, beautiful and affordable, I love all of them". To see the whole Cobra & Bellamy watch collection, visit www.cobrabellamywatches.co.uk or call 01736 732112 for further information.

7. TUTTABANKEM offer a range of stunning cotton kaftans, tops and cool cotton nighties – the perfect gift for yourself or your loved one. Visit them at www.tuttabankem.com or call them for a free catalogue on 01572 717332.

8. Fall into luxury this Autumn with **SOFFIAB** silk robes. Need a little comfort as you say goodbye to summer, treat yourself or your loved one to a luxury silk robe by SoffiaB. Two limited edition collections that feature pure silk dressing gowns that are lined with ultra soft cotton giving them a unique sensual feel. Hand stitched in New York but designed by a Brit these robes make a beautiful accompaniment to any bedroom, sizing comes in XS, S, M and L. A variety of eleven different colour combinations and prints, have a gander at www.soffiab.com or email concierge@soffiab.com

9. MANDARINA SHOES: reboot for Winter with a pair of Mandarina's brilliant boucle pixie boots. Smart, versatile and fun – these will go from desk to dinner and beyond. Available exclusively online at www.mandarinashoes.com Call UK 01307 819488.

10. SUSAN HOLTON KNITWEAR creates original contemporary knitwear and accessories for women of all ages, shapes and sizes. Finely crafted and distinctive, it is infinitely wearable, with striking and innovative styling. Beautiful. Buy online at www.susanholtonknitwear.com email sue@susanholtonknitwear.com or call 020 8941 0441 to find out more.

11. The Autumn / Winter collection from **VARCA** has arrived, including these beautiful boots in soft Italian suede, available in tan or black. Visit www.varca.com for the full range or call 01903 746677.

12 SORBET's beautiful Hammam towels are just so useful all year round. The essential "must have" holiday towel – lightweight, quick drying and they double up as a sarong! Amazingly compact so perfect for trips to the gym and swimming pool. At home they can be used as colourful guest towels and make a lovely change in the bathroom. 100% cotton, available in two sizes and 25 different mouth-watering colours. NEW for 2015! 100% cotton Herringbone weave pattern throws/blankets with hand-tied tassels – soft and luxurious. A perfect gift. Call 020 7627 8942 or visit the online shop www.sorbetltd.co.uk to find out more.

Bright Ideas...













1. THE LAMPSHADE COMPANY has launched a new designer lampshade range to add to their current collection of beautiful lampshades and are offering readers a discount on their first order. Each lampshade is handmade in Great Britain and available on short lead times. Suitable for commercial or residential use. Visit www.thelampshadeco.com or email info@thelampshadeco.com or call 0333 200 7229 and use code HOME20 to receive 20% off your first order, discount valid until 31 October 2015. Visit them at The Home Exhibition, Olympia, London from 13-15 September 2015 Stand Number I9C.

2. W SITCH & CO. Working in the trade since 1776, the Sitch family moved to their current premises in the 1870s from where they continue to specialise in the reproduction and renovation of antique lighting, be it the repair, rewiring or renovation of your own light fitting, or by offering you one from their selection of thousands of antiques or one of their reproductions which are made on the premises following traditional techniques. For further information, visit them at 48 Berwick Street, London W1F 8JD, call 020 7437 3776, or browse www.wsitch.co.uk

3. Limehouse 1900 by **THE LIMEHOUSE LAMP COMPANY** is their brand new collection of vintage lighting. Inspired by industrial and steam punk elements, urban chic sums up the style. Visit www.limehouse1900.com to be inspired or call 01273 497070 for more information. Enter code HG001 at checkout for a 20 percent discount until the end of October 2015.

4. VILLAVERDE creates handcrafted lighting, made in Italy for interiors throughout the world. The Grant nickel plated brass lantern, designed by Claudio Marco for Villaverde, is available in various sizes and brass finishes. They also offer a lighting consultancy service, enquire at their London showroom–618-620 Kings Road, London SW6 2DU, call 020 7610 9797 or visit their website www.villaverdeltd.com to find out more.

5. This is one of a fabulous range of Bohemian crystal chandeliers from **TINDLE** which comes in various sizes and styles and can all have Swarovski crystal drops added if required. Shown here is the eight arm version which is 64cm wide and 47cm high. List price is £927 +VAT (CL105/8). For more information, visit www.tindle-lighting.co.uk or call 020 7384 1485.

6. BROMLEIGHS. The copper dolly switch from their Forged Collection is handmade and finished at their workshop in Cornwall. Bromleighs supply a large range of light switches and electrical accessories, along with lighting and hardware to suit both period and contemporary homes. For further details, view their website at www.bromleighs.com or contact their sales team on 01208 79490.

7. For lamps to fall in love with, look no further than **POOKY**. Not only have the Pooky people designed a collection of lamps that are beautiful and affordable, but thanks to the rather clever Pooky Picker on their website, you can mix and match any lamp with any shade then view your creation on screen before buying. Genius! Pooky lamps are available in resin, wood, metal, ceramic and glass – and they all come with brass fittings and a twisted flex. Visit www.pooky.com email hello@pooky.com or call 020 7351 3003 to find out more.

8. MELODI HORNE creates eye catching, high end, elegant soft furnishings of outstanding quality. They offer a ready to buy range of unique handmade lampshades and cushions in bold colours and also a bespoke service. Their cushions and lampshades are all made in England with fabrics sourced worldwide. For more information, visit www.melodihorne.com or call 020 7491 1732.

9. CAMERON DESIGN HOUSE was founded by designer Ian Cameron, who combines his Finnish heritage and London upbringing to create unique, contemporary and bespoke lighting. Handcrafted from their Primrose Hill (London) studio, Cameron Design House combines natural and man-made materials to create elegant pieces boasting strong sculptural aesthetics and conscientious design.To see more of their beautiful range, visit www.camerondesignhouse.com or call 07775 335167 for more information.

10. LOVE AND LIGHT's latest Indigo range are simple, stylish and incredibly chic. The tapered bases with Indigo ink stripes have been hand painted and hand waxed. Their latest range of shades are inspired by the rose, with the Hot Pink injecting colour and vibrancy. Check out their website www.loveandlight.me.uk or email Nicky on loveandlight.me.uk@gmail.com or call 07990 567572 for more details.

11. CRYSTAL CORNER ANTIQUE CHANDELIERS, 9A Westhorpe Road, Marlow, SL7 1LB (by appointment). They specialise in large, good quality antique chandeliers and wall lights. Their warehouse is 45 minutes from London or they can bring chandeliers to your premises to try in situ. Email karen@crystal-corner.co.uk visit www.crystal-corner.co.uk or call 01628 488868 / 07721 518815 for more information.

Advertisers should contact 020 7499 9080 ext. 3705

Decadent Designs...





1. For more than 90 years at **TITCHMARSH & GOODWIN** they have been handcrafting stunningly beautiful wooden furniture at their workshops in Ipswich in Suffolk. Their highly skilled team of cabinet-makers, woodturners, carvers and French polishers are simply the best in the business at making furniture in the traditional way using the finest English oaks, walnuts and maples. They're very proud of the quality that they can achieve and, as every piece is made entirely from scratch, they can give you something you really want for your home. Call 01473 252158 for a brochure or visit www.titchmarsh-goodwin.co.uk for more information.

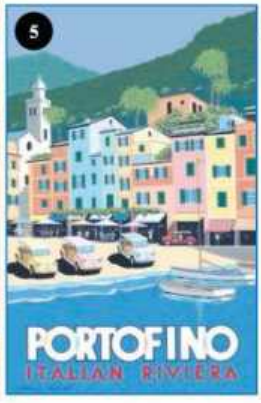
2. STUDIO DKS POPPY DOOR KNOCKER. Cast in weighty solid brass, these botanical themed knockers have poppy flower backplate and opium pod strike to announce guests. Created from an original wax carving, they are sand cast in India and sealed in lacquer to withstand the elements. Available in antique nickel, antique brass and antique bronze. To find out more, visit www.studiodks.com or call +1 646 918 4318.



3. QING ART specialises in antique and custom built furniture from selected designers. Contemporary lighting and ceramics are available at their showroom in Margate. Visit www.qingart.co.uk email enquiry@qingart.co.uk or call 01843 299055 for more information.



4. REVIVAL BEDS. All beds are handmade by a team of dedicated craftsmen in their workshops. There are 19 bed designs in the collection, including sleigh beds and four poster beds, which are available up to 8ft wide. Free delivery and installation is included. Find out more at www.revivalbeds.co.uk or call 01777 869669.



5. PULLMAN EDITIONS designs, commissions and publishes striking original posters which capture the enduring appeal of Art Deco. Their newly commissioned posters feature winter sports, glamorous resorts around the world, and the world's greatest historic automobiles. All £395 each. Call 020 7730 0547 or view and buy online at www.pullmaneditions.com



6. ALEXANDER & PEARL's online boutique offers a range of industrial chic and modern furniture and lighting. Whether you are looking for a statement piece or stunning lights to illuminate your home, they have pieces to suit stylish tastes. Pictured is the fabulous Dalston Industrial Dresser £2195. Visit www.alexanderandpearl.co.uk email mail@alexanderandpearl.co.uk or call 020 8508 0411 for more information.



7. London's stockist for Clearview Stoves, DEFRA approved for smoke control areas, **THE FOREST BAILIFF** offer an excellent service assisting you from site survey to the final installation by experienced Hetas approved installers. All fireside accessories and logs available too. Visit www.forestbailiff.co.uk or call 020 8947 5115 for more information.



8. IMPERIAL CANDLES is a British company that hand makes 100% natural soy wax candles with a piece of jewellery hidden inside, worth up to £2,000. These stylish candles will be the perfect addition to any home as an ideal gift for you or your loved ones. Visit www.imperialcandles.co.uk for 10% discount; enter HOUSE20 at checkout. Offer ends 31/10/15.



9. OVERMANTELS offer the most beautiful mirrors that will lift and transform any setting. Their exceptional craftsman will custom make a mirror in the style, size and finish of your choice. Now you can also conceal your TV within the mirror! Find out more at www.mirrors.co.uk or call 020 7223 8151.



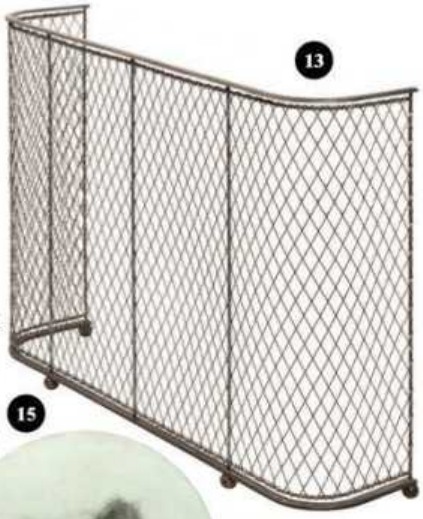
10. DEVOL KITCHENS – Designers and makers of handmade English kitchen cupboards. They offer a selection of classic Georgian and Shaker painted furniture and the Air kitchen, a retro classic of the future. Their most recent addition, the highly acclaimed Sebastian Cox Kitchen by deVOL, is a unique urban rustic design. All deVOL furniture is made in their workshops in Leicestershire and can be viewed at Cotes Mill, a beautifully renovated watermill, or their new London showroom in Clerkenwell. Visit www.devolkitchens.co.uk or call 01509 261000 for more information.



11. BUTTERFLY DOMES. Butterflies in glass domes. Choose your own butterflies or select a dome on the website. www.butterflydomes.co.uk or call 07951 110147.



12. ANDREW CARPENTER's timeless handmade English furniture is a collection that manifests contemporary design at its best. The pieces are bold and brilliantly designed, exemplifying Andrew's desire to create home furnishings that are both functional and aesthetically magnetic. From inspired luxurious beds to refined consoles, this sensory encounter of material and form create a tangible wow factor. Visit www.andrewcarpenterdesign.com or call 01702 568520 to be inspired.



13. Traditional and contemporary fireguards and log holders handmade in Bath, Somerset by **GARDEN REQUISITES.** The large traditional fireguard size shown measures 107cms wide and costs £350. Optional side fixings and bespoke service available; nationwide and international deliveries. Call 01225 851577 or visit www.garden-requisites.co.uk



14. ADAM WILLIAMS DESIGN patinated bronze furniture. Featured is this stunning Greenwich console table, available in a variety of finishes. Offered in bespoke dimensions, their tables would be a desirable acquisition to either traditional or contemporary interiors. Call 01749 830505, email info@adamwilliamsdesign.co.uk or visit www.adamwilliamsdesign.co.uk to view the complete collection.



15. The inspiration for **ROBERT A STUART**'s The Edge of Life comes from the Oresteia; the piece is 14" diameter, oil on board. To find out more, visit www.robertstuartart.com call 07806 701795 or email robert@robertstuarart.com

16. REBECCA HARTLEY INTERIORS is a luxury interior design studio based in South West London. Her contemporary yet classic style is popular with both her private and commercial clients. Rebecca and her team are passionate about creating inspired but practical interiors. For more information, please visit www.rebeccahartleyinteriors.com or call 020 8944 6803.



17. A&A ORIENTAL & PERSIAN RUGS offer a huge selection of handmade, antique and contemporary rugs. Let them know your requirements and they will visit you with a wide selection. Repair and restoration service. Pictured is the antique Persian Bekhshaish foundation wool size 4.20m by 0.90m. For more information, call 01794 511988, email aandaoriental@btconnect.com or visit the website at www.antiqueorientalcarpets.com





18. Each pure cashmere throw, cushion and blanket from **GILLIAN WEIR** is soft and luxurious, with your preferred selection of colour, weave, weight and finish and no minimum order quantity. They really are the ultimate bespoke indulgence for any interior scheme. Visit www.gillianweir.co.uk or call 01943 467353 for more information.



19. MONTPELLIER MARBLE's award-winning Giovanna fireplace is featured here in the sumptuous Crème Classico marble with Bellfires Derby Cassette Gas fire is reassuringly luxurious while providing maximum efficiency. For information on your nearest Montpellier stockist, contact them on 01242 582 777 or visit www.montpellier.co.uk or follow them on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest & Instagram.



20. ANTHONY ORAM's screen prints combine clever twists on classic proverbs and modern slogans with innovative typography and visual design. Displayed is "Anatomy of a Bicycle" part of his Ride-Eat-Sleep-Repeat collection, a fun and stylish collaboration of design and bikes. They're bold, daring and a bit subversive; just the thing to shake up your walls. Visit www.anthonyoram.com or email ant@anthonyoram.com to find out more.





21. ALDGATE HOME create original architectural window mirrors, perfect for display in the home and garden area. Delivery and installation service can be offered. View their collection at www.aldgatehome.com call 07785 296830 or email shop@aldgatehome.com

22. RED HOUSE TEXTILES in Suffolk presents an exquisite collection of fabrics, carefully curated to include a bespoke selection sourced from niche suppliers across the UK and Europe. Many are produced using diverse handmade techniques, such as blocking and hand screen-printing. Prices start from just £25 per metre but include options up to £250 per metre. Visit www.redhousetextiles.com or call 01394 548 110 for more details.



23. THE RUG STORE specialise in a wide selection of new, old and antique Persian, Turkish, Caucasian and Turkman carpets. Various antique, old and new kilims are available. They also offer a professional hand-cleaning and restoration service. They buy old and antique carpets – even damaged rugs. Part-exchange and evaluations. Visit 312 Upper Richmond Road West, East Sheen, London SW14 7JN. Call/fax 020 8876 0070, email info@rugstoreonline.co.uk or view www.rugstoreonline.co.uk



24. ROBERT LANGFORD's brand new 'In-Stock' collection features superb occasional tables, mirrors, rugs and accessories – a perfect foil for their already well known upholstered pieces. Design decisions made easier – this is just one of the reasons why Robert Langford is trusted by the world's best designers. Visit www.robertlangford.co.uk or call 020 7352 1876.

Decadent Designs... *Continued*





25. MATTER & HOME's Box embraces the four major aspects of our lives: Spirit, Love, Home, and Career. Each compartment displays medicinal herbs and resins that foster direction and purpose. The design embraces our intentions as the interior spaces of both home and self. Black Walnut with brass fittings. Call +1 9174 768149. Shop at www.matterandhome.com

26. OLLERTON RUGS & CARPETS. For carpets, rugs and runners that make a statement in your home. Traditional or Contemporary. A nationwide service built on over 25yrs experience supplying wool and natural carpets, custom made rugs and stair runners. For free samples and further details visit www.ollertonrugsandcarpets.co.uk or contact them on 01565 755376.



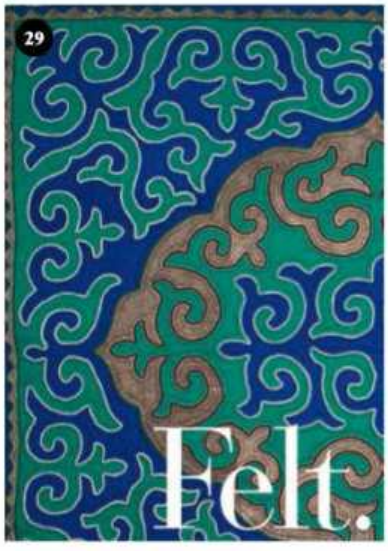
27. Made from the very finest quality wood, **MULTIYORK**'s furniture collections are hand-finished to the highest standard. From stunning dining tables to upholstered dining chairs, stylish storage solutions and occasional tables, Multiyork have chosen pieces that work with their sofas and armchairs to create a beautifully coherent look. Call 0333 358 3325 or visit www.multiyork.co.uk for more information.



28. PATRICK IRELAND MIRRORS design and manufacture beautiful hand finished framed mirrors in their East Sussex workshops. The Penhurst mirror illustrated with heavily distressed antique mirror panes, is an example of the variety of frame and mirror combinations they design and make. Round, oval and shaped mirror frames can also be made to their customers specifications, using bevelled, convex or antique mirrors as required. The Penhurst is just one of their innovative designs featured in their online Framed Mirror Catalogue. To see more, visit www.patrickirelandmirrors.com call 01435 813158 or email pi@pimirrors.com

29. FELT's unique collection of rugs, floor cushions and cushions are handmade by the nomadic peoples of Kyrgyzstan. From dazzling and bright to elegant and subtle, they suit both traditional and contemporary interiors. See Felt at Decorex 2015 on Stand J40 or view by appointment in London SW12. Call 020 8772 0358 or visit www.feltrugs.co.uk

30. INDIGO ANTIQUES specialise in Eastern antique furniture and decorative arts from India, China, Japan and Tibet. For over 35 years they have been carefully selecting furniture, gifts and accessories for their wonderful showroom in Wiltshire. You can now purchase items through their online shop at www.indigo-uk.com Visit the showroom at Dairy Barn, Manningford Bruce, Pewsey, Wiltshire SN9 6JW or call 01672 564722. This wonderful carved limed daybed from Rajasthan, India is part of their new collection complemented by a colourful selection of textiles and cushions.







31. HAWKHILL HOTWORKS' stunningly original British made statement pieces feature handsome wrought iron set with skilled fused glass and other materials. The collection includes beautifully designed coffee tables, distinctive seating, glass framed mirrors and lighting to accent many interiors. Bespoke orders welcomed. See more at www.hawkhillhotworks.co.uk or call 01241 830720.



32. MILLBROOK BEDS. It's your best kept secret in the bedroom. Traditionally handmade in the UK for almost 70 years, Millbrook Beds are made to order using only the finest, locally-sourced, natural materials to offer the ultimate in sleep luxury. Visit www.millbrook-beds.co.uk email enquiry@millbrookbeds.co.uk or call 0845 373 1111 for more details.

33. PERCEVAL DESIGNS specialises in high quality craftsmanship. Their furniture is original, bespoke and handmade in the UK. Pictured is their "Mellie" console table, which can be made to any size and colour you require. Visit www.percevaldesigns.co.uk or call 01449 740935 for more information.

PERCEVAL DESIGNS





34. HARVEY BROWN design and manufacture bespoke furniture specialising in leather armchairs and sofas. The Paris chair, inspired by one of their restoration projects, is upholstered using natural fillings and hand stained leather to recreate an original 1920's patina. Their workshop undertakes individual commissions, working closely with clients throughout the process. Call 01621 860772 or visit www.harveybrown.co.uk for more information.



35. UK based fine artist, **LOR BIRD** paints in an eclectic style using a variety of media to give the pieces colour, texture and depth. A painting by Lor will enliven an interior, creating a vibrant talking point and an investment for your home or work space. Shown, is the wonderful 'Church Walk' painting. For more information, visit www. lorbird.wix.com/artbylorbird or call 07914 757134.



36. SALISBURY ANTIQUES presents a late 18th century/ early 19th century Swedish bureau stripped back to reveal its original paint. £1,200. To find out more, call 01722 410634 or visit www.salisburyantiquescentre.com



37. LIZARD ORCHID's Hunter Wolf collection, includes a range of woodland inspired hand painted ceramic serveware. Utilising a century old manufacturing technique to give a unique expression of Portuguese life, these are timeless pieces of intricate ceramic art which stand alone as a statement or sit well with white dinnerware. Dishwasher and microwave safe. Decorative red tureen £79. Visit www.lizardorchid.com or call 01403 791348 for more information.

38. ARTISAN POSTBOXES & SIGNS. Handcrafted from heavy duty cast aluminium by Artisans in Northamptonshire. The Rockbox Mailbox has fantastic capacity and can be fully personalised. From £310. Built-into wall and pillar design postboxes and a range of cast signs also available from their foundry. Browse for inspiration and buy online at www.rockartisansigns.co.uk or call 01327 351561 for a brochure.



38

39. MELLOW DUCK's upholstered pods are made in Yorkshire and multi-task as pouffes, footstools or side tables. You can choose from 7 shapes and 5 core fabrics (including Saltaire dappled wool, Malham stripe, Sandringham plaid or Grassington "suede") or use your own fabric. Visit www.mellowduck.co.uk or call 0113 290 7942 for more information.



39



40

40. Scandinavian vintage at **OYSTER CATCHER INTERIORS**. Specially sourced and imported from Sweden, stunning original Scandinavian Gustavian antiques at competitive prices, such as beautiful armoires, Mora clocks, corner cupboards and lots more! Oyster Catcher also offers a range of beautiful aged leather arm chairs, trunks, coffee tables and a stunning drinks cabinet! To see their collection, visit www.oystercatcherinteriors.com or call 01823 336686, 10am-5pm, Tues-Sat with any enquiries.



41

41. JANE HAMILTON, portrait and figure sculptor. Her sculptures have energy and pathos; when doing a portrait, whether young or old, she approaches her work with the sensitivity and truthfulness needed for a likeness. To see more of Jane's work, visit www.janehamilton-sculpture.com or call 01295 750636.



42

42. ON REFLECTION MIRRORS offer a wide selection of beautiful, original, antique and vintage mirrors, including many Venetian mirrors, which you can see at www.antiquemirrors.co.uk They regularly exhibit at the Battersea Decorative Fair, London, or to see all available stock, visit their showroom any time on the Somerset/Dorset border. Open by appointment only. Call 01963 220723 or email info@on-reflection.co.uk



43



44

43. Beautiful Mediterranean style table cloth from **OTTOMANIA** with stripes and fringe, made of fine cotton. In the past these very authentic tablecloths were actually used as bed sheets in Turkey and Greece and they can of course still being used the same way, or as beautiful bedspread. See www.ottomania.co.uk for more information or call +31 23 737 0426.

44. THE DOUGLAS WATSON STUDIO offers high quality handmade and hand painted tiles using traditional techniques and a wide range of glazes, colours and styles, from historical and classical sources to original and contemporary designs. Panels and installations, for kitchens, bathrooms and fireplaces, are custom made for each client. For more information, call 01491 629960 or visit www.douglaswatsonstudio.co.uk



45

45. GLAZEBROOK & CO create quintessentially British silver and stainless steel cutlery to the highest quality. This delightful range is Old English mirror finish stainless steel with cream handled knives (dishwasher safe). Set of six at £300. To investigate, visit www.glazebrook.com or call 020 7731 7135.



46

46. NAOMI TATE DESIGNS. For timeless elegance and classically beautiful interiors, please contact Naomi Tate on 07699 257374 or visit www.naomitatedesigns.com



47

47. EPOC HANDCRAFTED BEDS boasts a distinguished history, originating from 1940s East End London and recognised as one of the UK's finest manufacturers of handcrafted, bespoke divan beds, mattresses and headboards. From castles in Scotland and palatial private residences in Monaco to stately homes in the UK, EPOC's reputation stretches worldwide. To find out more, visit www.epocbeds.co.uk and see them at Decorex, Stand D46 or call 01473 255888.

48. FELIPE ENGER is a Brazilian/Swedish fine art photographer based in London. In his new project Mindscapes, he explores the idea of belonging through intriguing abstract landscapes. For more information, call 07508 916419, email felipe.enger@gmail.com or visit www.felipeenger.com



48

49. IAN SANDERSON creates unique fabric collections from their design studio in West Berkshire. The Indigo collection was inspired by creative director Helen Sanderson's love of Indigo blue dyed fabrics. They are in their "Blue Phase" – any colour as long as it is blue. The Indigo collection is a vibrant mix of prints, weaves, embroidery and plain fabrics all held together in one story contemporary and classic. These fabrics will enable you to create a relaxed and comfortable look which is effortlessly smart and chic. You can contact Ian Sanderson at www.iansanderson.co.uk or call 01635 33188 to find out more.



49

Decadent Designs... *Continued*





50. CHEEKY MONKEY TREEHOUSES specialise in the design and build of bespoke tree houses to complement your garden perfectly. They can also undertake European and worldwide commissions. Visit www.cheekymonkeytreehouses.com or call 01403 732 452 for more information.

51. For antique garden ornaments like these fabulously large, 19th century coppers visit **LICHEN GARDEN ANTIQUES**. Amongst its stock of beautiful antiques Lichen sells statuary, gates, finials and planters, as well as prestigious reclaimed York and limestone flooring for landscaping projects. Visit www.lichengardenantiques.com or call 01242 609551 for more information.







52. PLAYAHEAD DESIGN make and install a fantastic range of bespoke treehouses. Check out their new website for galleries of the huge number of unique projects they have completed at www.playahead.org.uk call Jerry direct on 07854 084958 or email him at jerry@playahead.org.uk to find out more.

53. These 19th century copper vessels make ideal planters for larger shrubs, trees and flowering plants and can also be adapted to create water fountains. These large bowl shaped items take on a lovely deep verdigre colour and make great statement pieces in both large and smaller gardens - now available at Hungerford based, **GARDEN ART** who specialise in garden antiques and contemporary garden items and structures. Visit www.gardenartplus.com email sales@gardenartplus.com or call 01488 686811.





54. TITANIA combines the best of Indian traditions with contemporary design to produce beautiful bespoke luxury tents and garden umbrellas. With metal or wooden structures; waterproof, anti-fungal canvas canopies and hand block printed linings, a TITANIA canopy creates an enchanted space in any garden. Order online at www.titaniatents.com email uksales@titaniatents.com or call 07950 918489 for more information.

55. CK GARDEN SCULPTURES. Handmade in Somerset, a unique range of "Rustic" and mirrored stainless steel designs based on ferns. Visit www.ckgardensculptures.co.uk or call Chris on 01935 827836. Prices from £150. Commissions taken.

56. HADDONSTONE is the UK's leading manufacturer of fine garden ornaments and architectural stonework in traditional, classical and contemporary styles. Haddonstone will launch the Adam Plinth (£275) at Decorex, the latest design from a collaboration with the Soane Museum, pictured here with the Piper statue. Inspirational catalogue available. Visit www.haddonstone.com or call 01604 770711.





57. RIVIERA HOT TUBS offer a unique range of award winning cedar wood hot tubs, combining traditional cooperage methods with the latest spa technology. These hot tubs range from £6,395 to £12,000. They install throughout Europe and worldwide. For further information or to request a brochure, visit www.riviera-hottubs.co.uk or call 01803 663709.

58. MY SHE SHED... not just a male domain. The ultimate retreat at the bottom of the garden with a suitably luxurious twist. Design your building with high quality materials, around your permitted development, to create a perfect oasis of calm, to write, paint or propagate! For more information, visit www.mysheshed.co.uk call 07765 190869 or email mysheshed@gmail.com



59. STONE & WATKINS PLAY HOUSES. Beautifully crafted children's cottages and platforms with a range of play equipment individually designed for your requirements. Classic or contemporary, they build to suit any garden from a neat urban space to a rural country setting. Visit their website at www.play-houses.com or call them for more information on 01363 772879.

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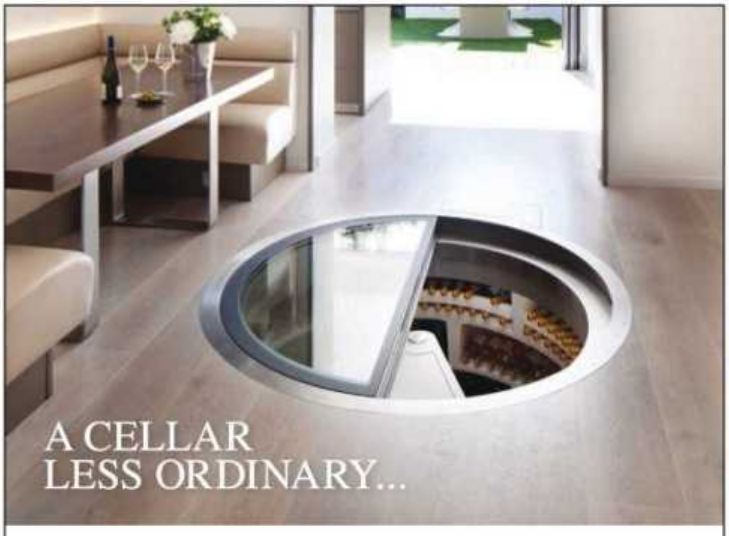
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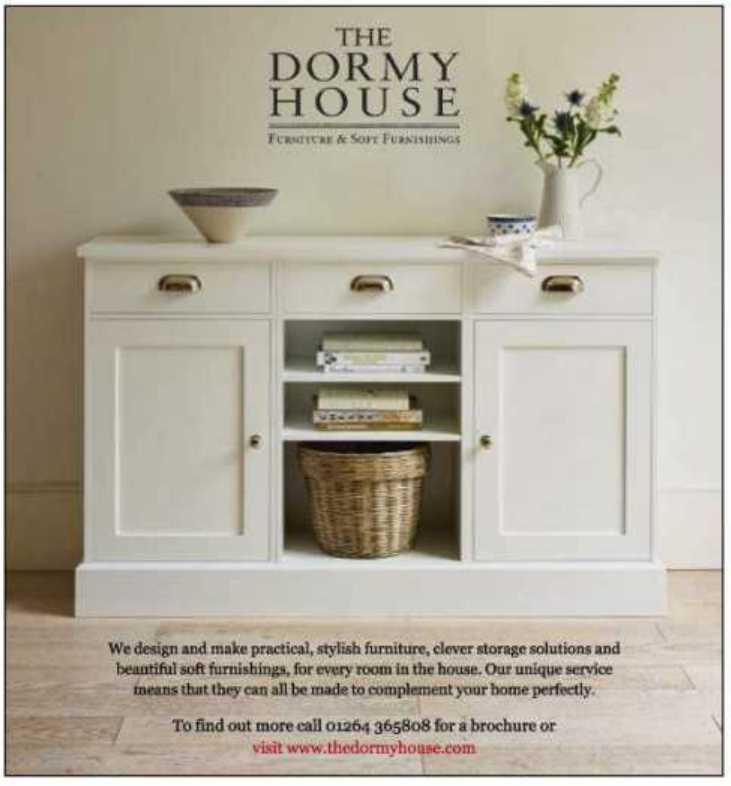




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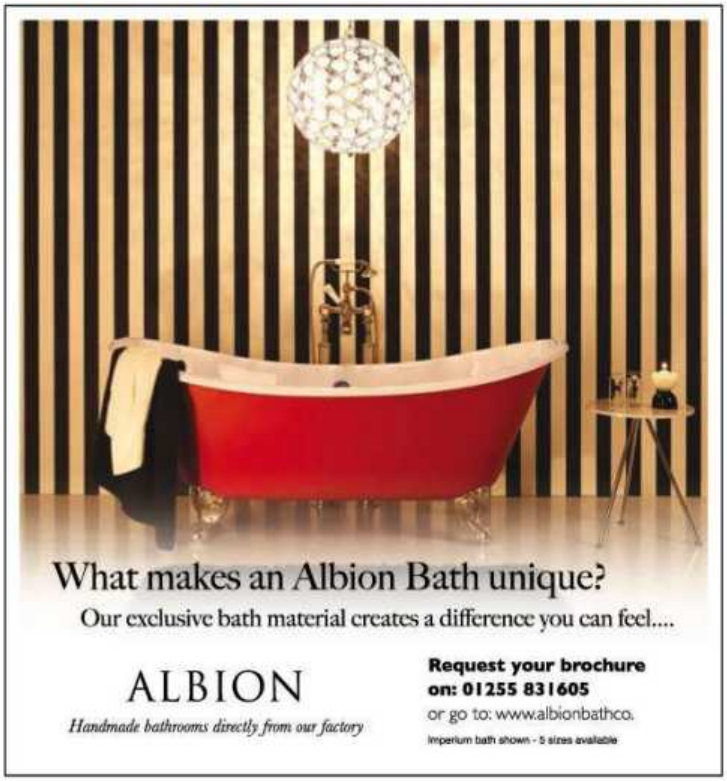
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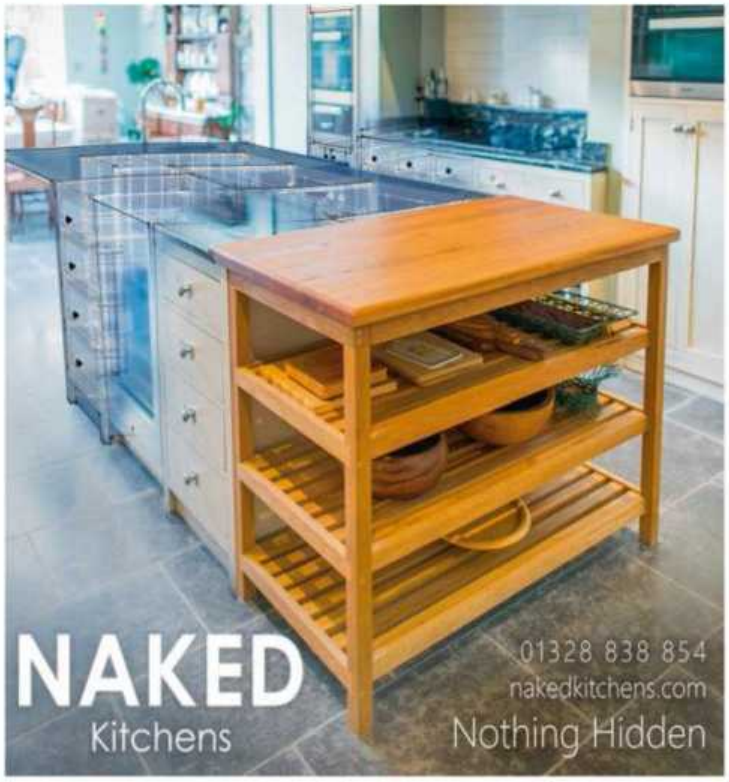












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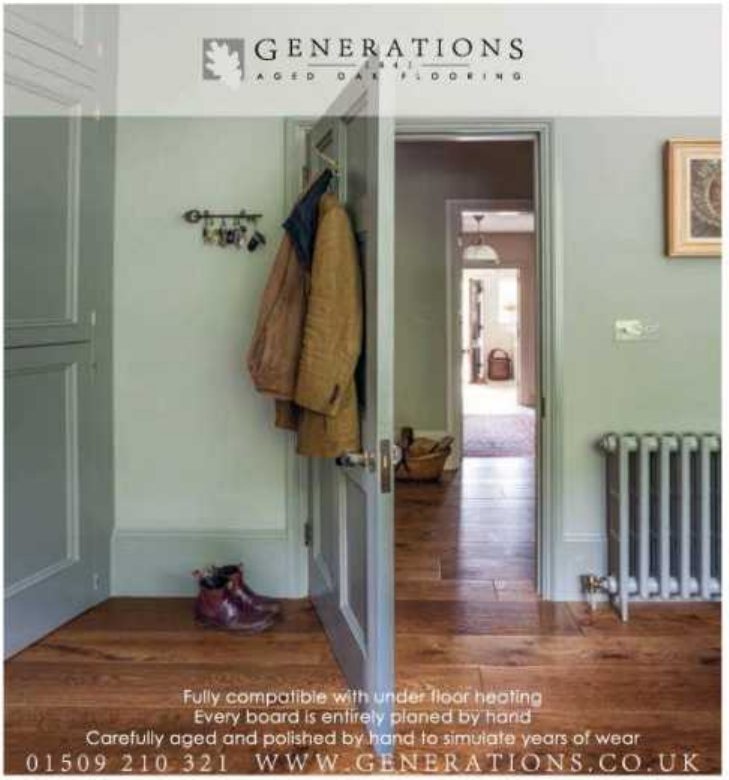












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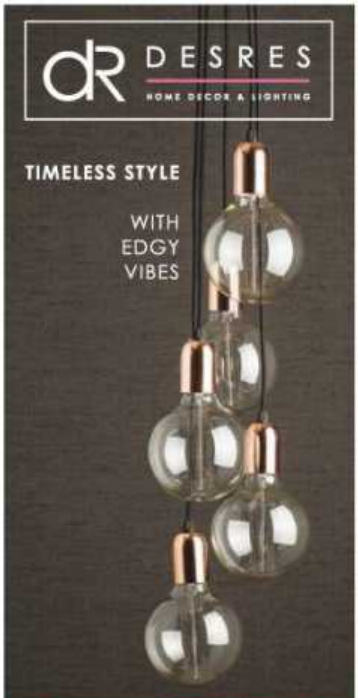
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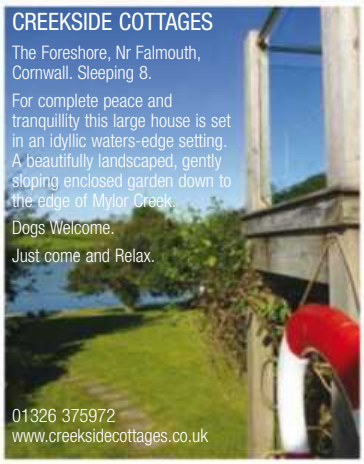
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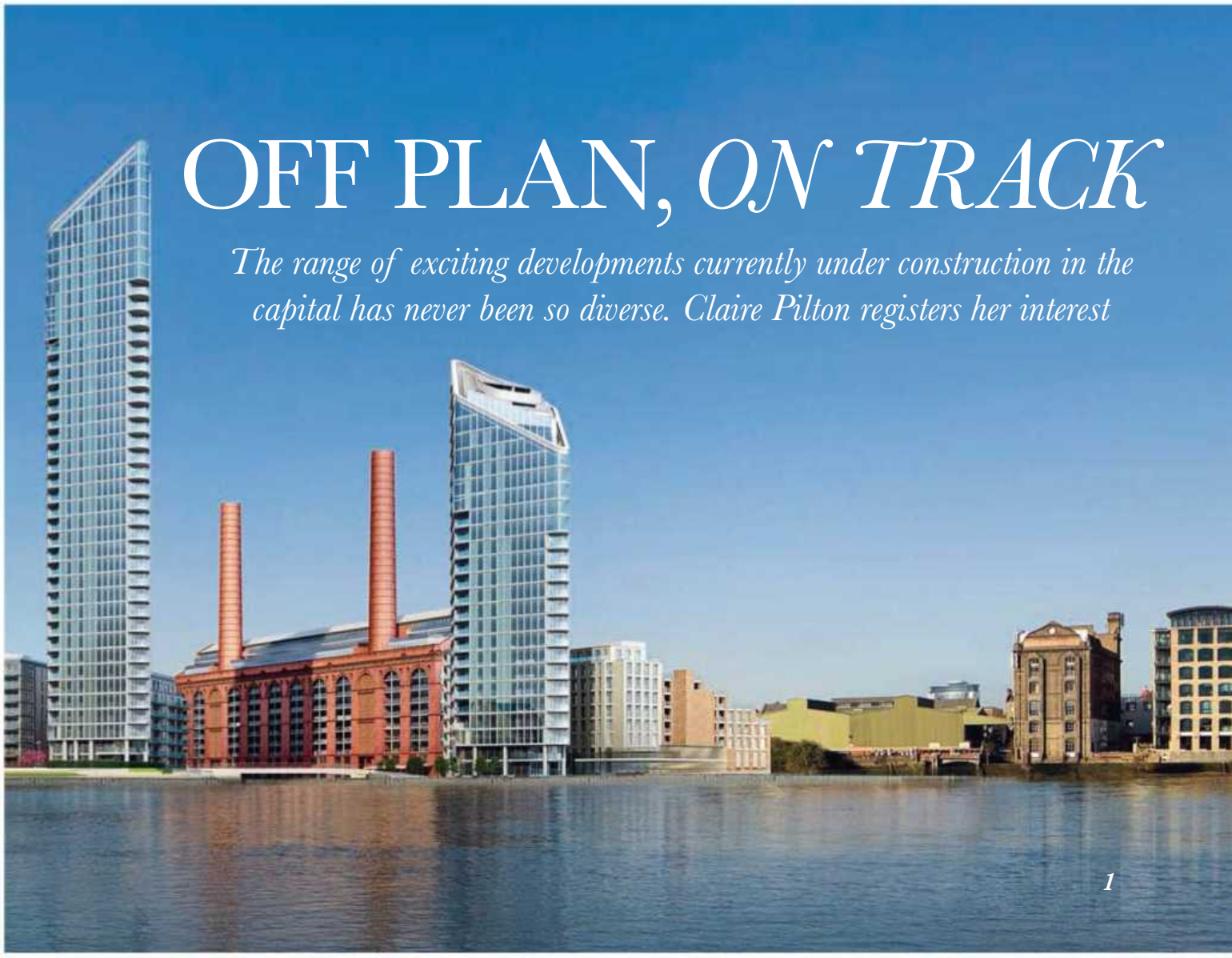
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OFF PLAN, *ON TRACK*

The range of exciting developments currently under construction in the capital has never been so diverse. Claire Pilton registers her interest



1

It was built in 1904 to provide electricity for the London underground, but now **Lots Road Power Station** (1) is the last significant development site on the north bank of the Thames, along that central stretch between Chelsea and the City. Developer Cheung Kong – whose previous Thames-side schemes, Montevetro and Albion Riverside, were designed by Lord Rogers and Lord Foster – has appointed Sir Terry Farrell to masterplan this eight-acre site. Chelsea Waterfront, SW10, incorporates 10 new buildings and three new bridges over Chelsea Creek that will link the power station to water gardens designed by Randle Siddeley Associates. A waterside restaurant, cafés and shops will line a mall within the power station, which will also provide 260 of the scheme's 706 homes. Next to the station, with views to Battersea and Chelsea Bridges, the first apartments are now trickling onto the market through Knight Frank and Savills (020 7352 8852). They're not due for completion until mid 2017; prices start from £1.7 million for a one-bedroom flat, with three- and four-bedroom family apartments from £2.7 million and £3.2 million. Despite the ironic lack of a nearby tube station, Chelsea Waterfront is within walking distance of the King's Road, the river bus at Chelsea Harbour and the train station at Imperial Wharf.

Move east to Canary Wharf and within five minutes of the tube station – and five miles from London City airport – Berkeley is developing a residential unit, mixed-use scheme at South Dock, E14. Dubbed London's youngest landmark, **South Quay Plaza** (2) will include two towers; one has 36 storeys, the other has 68 and, at 220m, is destined to become the UK's tallest residential scheme. The scheme is also a first for Foster + Partners who is designing both the architecture and interiors. Construction commences in January. The first phase, where prices start from £490,000 (call 020 3675 4400), is due for completion in 2020, by which time Crossrail will connect Canary Wharf to Heathrow in less than 40 minutes.

Nine miles from Heathrow and a short walk from Richmond station, the view from Richmond Hill is such that it is the only one in England to be protected by an Act of Parliament. Here, London Square (0333 666 0102) is restoring and redeveloping **The Star and Garter** (3), a Grade II-listed landmark that overlooks the Thames and Richmond Park. Having started life as an hotel, it was rebuilt to designs by Sir Edwin Cooper RA in 1924 when it was opened by Queen Mary and King George V to house injured service men. Two years after the care home's relocation to Surbiton, London Square is launching a suitably exclusive collection of 86 apartments and duplexes. Due













for completion early 2017, the listed terrace garden and grounds will also be restored, while the King's Room, with its ornate mouldings, coffered ceilings and fireplaces will be the setting for an opulent spa, pool and fitness suite.

From the all but rural tranquillity of London's largest royal park to the super-central, theatrically charged marketplace that is **Covent Garden** (4): more than 90 new brands have joined this vibrant estate since Capco (020 7395 1350) became principal landowner in 2006. During that time, Capco has championed Covent Garden's relatively newfound prime residential status, achieving an average £2,850 per sq ft. With 28 projects currently on the go, Kings Court is Capco's largest to date; introducing a walk-way through from Long Acre in the north via Floral Street to King Street in the south it will, come 2017, provide two restaurants, nine retail units and 45 apartments for rental. Capco is letting properties more quickly than it can do them up, at annual rents of circa £70 to £85 per sq ft. Ranging from 700sq ft studios to 5,000sq ft penthouses, Kings Court will combine newly built contemporary warehouse-style accommodation with handsome Grade II-listed period office conversions.

On dapper **Jermyn Street** (5), St James's, SW1, the office space above British clothing designer Daks is being redeveloped by Dukelease to provide a boutique scheme of eight apartments. Named after Beau Brummel, the arbiter of men's fashion in the 1700s whose statue graces Jermyn Street, Beau House will be clad in a striking limestone façade with bronze detailing; a discreet entrance will access an opulent lobby providing five-star concierge. Launching to the market when completed early next year, anticipated prices start from £2 million. The 3,000sq ft duplex penthouse, which has 1,000sq ft of terraces, will be designed and dressed throughout by Oliver Burns. Bachelor boys and uptown girls with some £15 million up their sleeves should register their interest with Carter Jonas (020 7493 0676) and CBRE (020 7240 2255).

Alternatively, in the new 'destination neighbourhood' of Fitzrovia, Great Portland Estates (020 7580 1100) has eight penthouses at **Rathbone Square** (6), that range from £4.475 million to £7.6 million. With completion not scheduled until early 2017 (a year before Crossrail's arrival around the corner at Tottenham Court Road), sales here are nudging £230 million and averaging £1,886 per sq ft; over half the 132 buyers are British. Designed inside and out by Make, it is the largest of GPE's six schemes in the West End. Watch this space for news of its next development across the road from Condé Nast's HQ, aka Tottie Towers, in Hanover Square, W1.

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Advertisement Feature



London *View*

By Knight Frank

On your doorstep... *Parks*

Live close to London's best green spaces

The Wishlist

London's most sought after properties

We speak to *Lucy Day*

Knight Franks' Interior Design

Welcome to London *View*

Fashion, music, food, film… whatever your passion, London is the city that never stands still. This constant evolution is what attracts people from all over the world, and that same sense of vitality is just as evident in the capital's property market.

While the headlines in recent years have focussed on rising prices and international buyers, the London property market has evolved and the picture in 2015 is more nuanced as price growth has moderated. May's general election introduced an element of uncertainty that dampened activity in the sales market and, to a lesser degree, in the letting market.

With a majority government now in place for the next five years and the prospect of a Mansion Tax having receded, some degree of pent-up demand has been released and there are signs of stronger activity. However, a recent increase in stamp duty is still being absorbed by buyers and sellers, which has cooled price growth. Despite the shifting regulatory and macro-economic backdrop, prime central remains as a safe haven for Buyers around the world.

New developments with best-in-class amenities are in particularly high demand and Knight Frank now has sales and lettings teams in key developments including One Tower Bridge, Goodman's Fields and King's Cross. On the rental side, renewed confidence in London as a financial capital – in part due to George Osborne's relaxing of the bank levy – is likely to underpin demand.

Overall, there is a feeling that London's maturing economy is fostering a sensible, stable property market; one characterised by steady not stratospheric growth. Behind this summary there are countless individual stories and characters that play their part in shaping this ever-changing property market. We've looked at a few in the following pages, alongside some of the top properties currently available throughout the capital (go to KnightFrank.com to see more).

There's also a piece on the rise of studio living in the city, and Lucy Day from Knight Frank Interiors talks about her latest projects and influences. We also take a look at some of the city's best parks to live close to in our regular 'On your doorstep' feature.

We hope you enjoy our take on the capital's property market and look forward to catching up with you in the next instalment of London View.

Noel Flint, *Partner, Head of London Sales*
Tim Hyatt, *Partner, Head of London Lettings*

Knight Frank

Contents





On your doorstep... Parks

Live close to London's best green spaces

Small is Beautiful

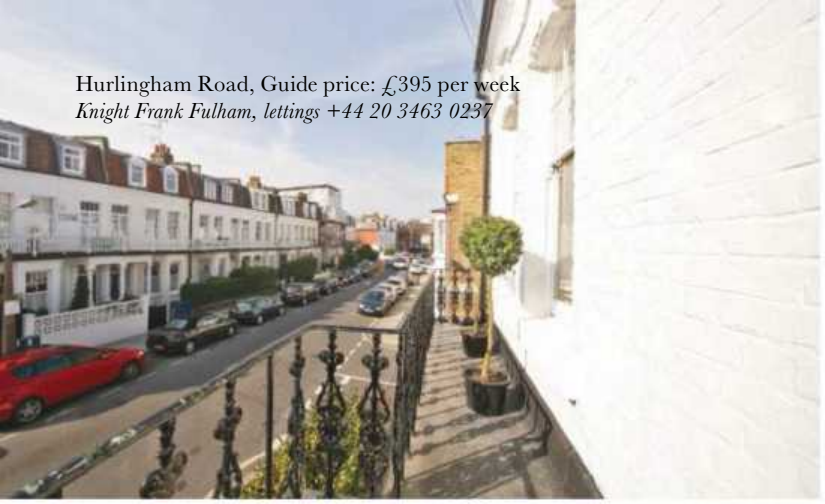
The rise of studio living

The Wishlist

London's most sought after properties

We speak to Lucy Day

Knight Franks' Interior Design



Hurlingham Road, Guide price: £395 per week
Knight Frank Fulham, lettings +44 20 3463 0237



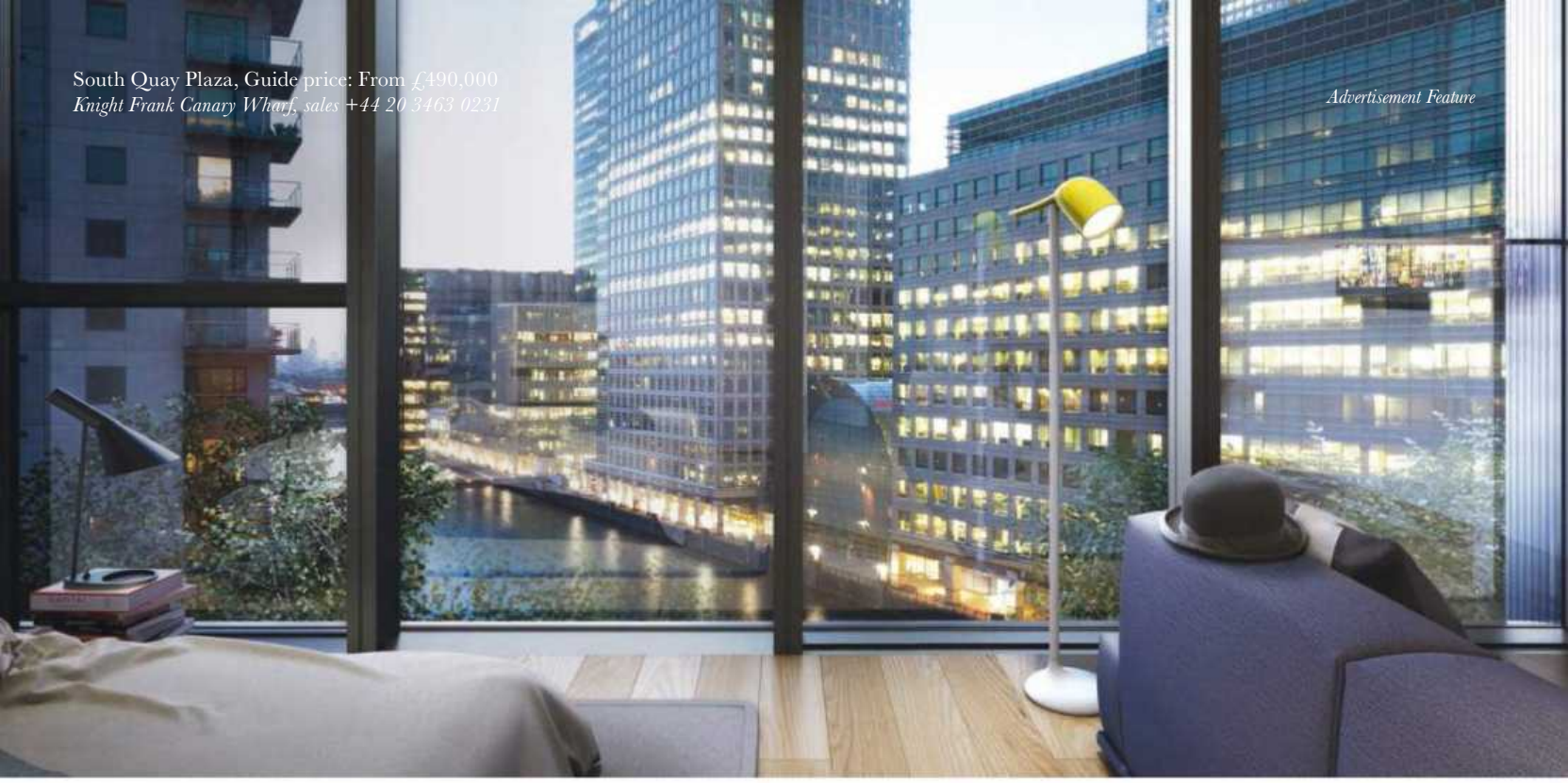
Seymour Street, Guide price: £560 per week
Knight Frank Marylebone, lettings +44 20 3328 6537

Small *is* *Beautiful*

The Central London pied à terre is enjoying a resurgence. With studios and one-bed flats being snapped up faster than ever, Londoners are truly embracing the advantages of scaled-down living.

Westbourne Terrace, Guide price: £950 per week
Knight Frank Hyde Park, lettings +44 20 3463 0241





South Quay Plaza, Guide price: From £490,000
Knight Frank Canary Wharf, sales +44 20 3463 0231

Choose well and your space can punch above its size. With clever storage, big windows and good views, there's no reason to suffer from cabin fever. Restaurants and cafes on the doorstep can become your living room, and when there's a park nearby who needs a garden? Trading size for location can be a great way to live in some of London's most desirable neighbourhoods, but who's driving this trend?

The commuter's choice

Recent years have seen families in their droves cashing in and decamping to the countryside…or the commuter belt at least. It could be the reality of the daily 7:03 to Waterloo or simply an unwillingness to cut ties with the capital completely, but many are choosing to also buy 'a little place in town' with the change from their London sale.

The bank of mum and dad

Then there are the parents faced with having to foot high monthly rent bills for children starting out in London. With the choice between a crowded flatshare and a private space – albeit a small one – buying a studio has its obvious attractions. And with these properties at more affordable price levels in the most chi-chi postcodes, it's a great way to get the children onto the housing ladder in a good part of town.

Trading size for location can be a great way to live in some of London's most desirable neighbourhoods, but who's driving this trend?

Big returns

For investors, the bottom line is king. The relatively low purchase cost of studios and high Central London rents can combine to deliver excellent yields, along with the capital growth that the city continues to deliver.

So for many, small really is beautiful. Whether it's somewhere to stay after a late night at the office, a prized first home or a sound investment, scaled-down living seems to be here to stay.

China Court, Guide price: £485,000
Knight Frank Wapping, sales +44 20 3463 0226



Donovan Court, Guide price: £ 970,000
Knight Frank Chelsea, sales +44 20 3463 0149





Cleveland Square, Guide price: £3,950,000
Knight Frank Hyde Park, sales +44 20 3463 0240



Beverley Road, Guide price: £3,150,000 (*5-6 bedrooms)
Knight Frank Barnes, sales +44 20 3328 6535

The property wishlist



Fountain House, Guide price: £1,975,000 (*2-3 bedrooms)
Knight Frank Riverside, sales +44 20 3328 6542



Derwent Avenue, Guide price: £1,999,500
Knight Frank Wimbledon, sales +44 20 3463 0355



Strawberry Hill Road, Guide price: £2,495,000 (*5-6 bedrooms)
Knight Frank Richmond, sales +44 20 3463 0331



St James's Drive, Guide price: £2,500,000
Knight Frank Wandsworth, sales +44 20 3463 0325



Pan Peninsula, Guide price: £600 per week
Knight Frank Canary Wharf, lettings +44 20 3463 0232



Clive Court, Guide price: £850 per week
Knight Frank St John's Wood, lettings +44 20 3463 0228



Kensington Church Road, Guide price: £675 per week
Knight Frank Kensington, lettings +44 20 3463 0303



Gray's Inn Road, Guide price: £850 per week
Knight Frank King's Cross, lettings +44 20 3463 0112



Queen's Gate, Guide price: £1,695 per week
Knight Frank South Kensington, lettings +44 20 3463 0239

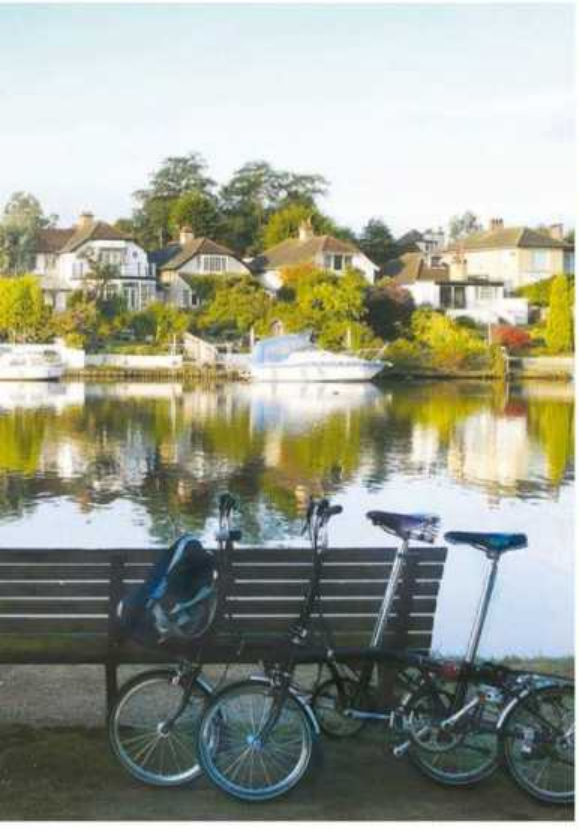


Cinnabar Wharf, Guide price: £950 per week
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Whether you are looking for a pied à terre in the city or a family home further afield, with strategically placed offices across London we can help you find your dream home.

Lucy Day from Knight Frank Interiors has picked her top 12 properties for sale and to let across London.

Read her interview on how she delivers exquisitely finished homes for the world's most influential high net worth clients, residential developers and landlords.





Richmond Park

With a view so breathtaking it's protected by an Act of Parliament, Richmond is a park with pedigree. It's huge at over 2,500 acres and it's also famously home to 600+ free roaming deer. It's great for cycling, with routes from easy to challenging, plus there's horse riding and two golf courses.

Roedean Crescent - Richmond Park

An amazing six bedroom family house for sale close to Richmond Park. The house benefits from superb lateral accommodation arranged over three floors extending to approximately 624 sq m (6,716 sq ft). Guide price: £5,000,000

Knight Frank Richmond, sales +44 20 3463 0331

Dulwich Park

Dulwich Park has been restored in recent times to its original Victorian layout. Open meadows are criss-crossed with paths for walkers and joggers, and the wonderful boating lake is a haven for the local birdlife. There's also a popular running club and a well-subscribed park run every Saturday morning.

On your doorstep... *Parks*



Lyford Road - Wandsworth Common

A rare and special six bedroom house, designed by the world famous Arts and Crafts master architect Charles Voysey in 1903. Guide price: £4,100,000

Knight Frank Wandsworth, sales +44 20 3463 0325

Wandsworth Common

Considered the slightly wilder cousin of nearby Clapham Common, Wandsworth Common is larger and more wooded. As well as nature reserves and ornamental gardens there's a well-stocked lake (fishing membership required) and an array of sports pitches. Along the Common's western flank are the sought-after homes of the 'toast rack' – large Georgian and Victorian family houses.



Hampstead Heath

Wandering in the woods and wilds of Hampstead Heath it's easy to forget that you're just a few miles from central London. If you feel the need for a reminder, though, simply climb to the top of Parliament Hill where you'll be rewarded with wonderful views of the capital. Kenwood House for the open air concerts and the natural swimming ponds are two of the Heath's unique highlights.



Lordship Lane - Dulwich

A fine Victorian five bedroom home which has been exceptionally refurbished, whilst retaining many elegant period features.
Guide price: £2,250,000
Knight Frank Dulwich, sales +44 20 8022 4036

Vale of Health - Hampstead Heath

Offering uninterrupted views over one of Hampstead's ponds and Hampstead Heath, a beautiful south facing plot with full planning permission granted for a contemporary home.
Guide price: £5,500,000
Knight Frank Hampstead Heath, sales +44 20 3463 0127

London's communities have always clustered around its parks. These precious green spaces are a tantalising taste of the countryside in town, a place where the sky and the views magically open up as soon as we step away from the busy pavements of the city. North, east, south and west, we've chosen a few of our favourites.



Computer generated image for indicative purposes only.







Interior Services

From Mayfair townhouse to Marbella villa, Lucy Day has helped create interior design for some of the loveliest homes around the world.

Lucy Day
Knight Frank Interiors
+44 20 8022 6171

Day works with the Interior Services team of global estate agency Knight Frank, to deliver exquisitely finished homes for High Net Worth private clients as well as some of the world's most influential residential developers and landlords. "Understanding the highest level of quality allows us to advise on interior design projects of the highest calibre," says Day, who is Senior Business Development Manager for the London based team.

Knight Frank's Interior Service which develops all aspects of interiors architecture and furnishing specifications, is carefully tailored to meet individual clients' requirements and can advise on "everything from joinery to the final furnishings being installed".

Recent commissions have ranged from a one million pound London riverside apartment to a two hundred million dollar Swiss lakeside home in Geneva as well as the summer residences of royalty. "We are not restricted by the style of the house and are able to be quite flexible," says Day. "It is really very varied".

Knight Frank's Interior Services also offers a commercial service for developers and landlords. Whether bachelor pad or a family home, the "dressed to sell" and "dressed to let" schemes are carefully crafted to showcase homes to their best potential for the "target demographic, location and market," says Day.

To help them achieve this, the team rely on a trusted network of high calibre UK and European suppliers. Sometimes, depending on the country in which they are working, they will also use quality local artisans to enhance design. With furniture, artwork, rugs, lighting plants and accessories, the team will take a vacant house and transform it into a home that looks really luxurious and lived in."



"Understanding the highest level of quality allows us to advise on interior design projects of the highest calibre"

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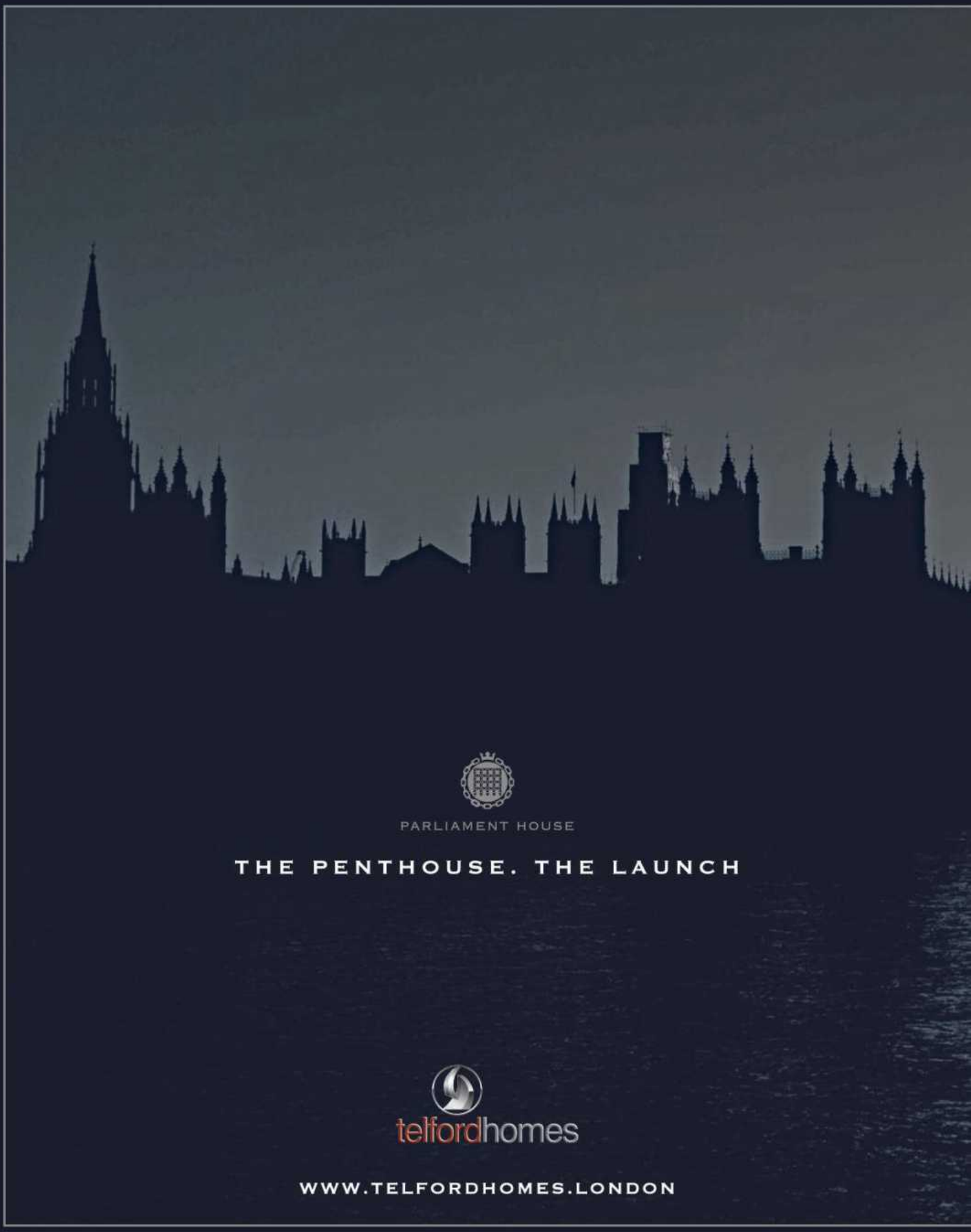
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MONTENEGRO *ROCKS*



Budva, with its atmospheric Old Town and numerous beaches, certainly has a lot to offer

The yachts are getting bigger. The season is getting longer. Claire Pilton discovers a choice of world-class coastal schemes along this rolling Mediterranean riviera

Lord Byron was right. The Montenegrin coastline really is 'the most beautiful encounter between land and sea'. With its mountainous backdrop, butterfly-shaped bay and 19 blue-flag beaches, the best way to appreciate this 200-mile shoreline is by boat; owning one is fast becoming de rigeur in what is still a new holiday-home destination where warships have only recently been replaced by superyachts. Montenegro is shrugging off the shadow of Communism in style. Next year it celebrates a decade of independence – and the opportunity to retain its ranking as one of the fastest-growing tourist destinations in the world.



PARTY TOWN

Budva's old town buzzes night and day. A stone's throw from the main square and marina, Dukley Residences offers a mix of 36 pied-à-terre, apartments and loft-style penthouses priced from €300,000 to €1,500,000. The developers behind the Dukley brand control over 80% of Budva's waterfront, including the marina, where proposed hotels and branded residences will make this the Monte Carlo of the Adriatic. *www.dukley.com*



HISTORIC CHARM

In the UNESCO-protected Venetian walled city of Kotor, unmodernised apartments start from €1,600/m2. Done up, they can achieve the best rental yields along the coast, reports Savills' associates Dream Estates Montenegro, which expects strong appreciation over the next five years. On the main square, a two-bedroom flat costs €120,000, as does a large one-bedroom apartment by the shore at Prcani. *www.dreammontenegro.com*



ONE-STOP SHOPPING

Currently the only buying agent in Montenegro, MRAY Consulting provides a secure and transparent entry into this still young but fast growing market. The company saves clients time and hassle by sourcing all available options both from selling agents and off-market, and presenting only legally and financially clean properties. It also offers full architectural services and furniture supply. *www.mrayconsulting.weebly.com*

THE SUPERYACHT SQUAD

The visionary redevelopment of a former Yugoslavian naval base in the Bay of Kotor saw the launch of the spectacular Porto Montenegro marina in 2009. With its sparkling location in the UNESCO-protected bay (it's home to some incredibly well-preserved medieval buildings and fortifications), there is direct access to the Adriatic and some of the best cruising in the Mediterranean basin. Porto Montenegro currently offers 400 berths of up to 180m, as well as 50 restaurants, bars and shops, a five-star Regent Hotel and 130 sold-out apartments. Next up: the Regent Pool Club Residences, from €409,000 to €3,720,000, which offer unobstructed sea and mountain views. www.portomontenegro.com



ROCK-STAR CHIC

The exclusive seaside estate and sanctuary of lushly landscaped Dukley Gardens is now complete and over 70% sold. Set on Budva Riviera's Zavala peninsula, the 204 water-fronting residences are cut into the rock across 36 apartment buildings. They and the development's dreamy Beach Lounge and Restaurant enjoy panoramic views of the Adriatic coast to Budva old town and Dukley Marina, just a five-minute water-taxi away. Prices currently range from €700,000 up to €3,500,000 for a three-bedroom penthouse whose roof terrace comes equipped with a Jacuzzi, shower and summer kitchen. *www.dukley.com*





BAY WATCH PIN-UPS

Lustica Bay welcomed its first homeowners this summer. Overlooking the Adriatic at Traste Bay, this low-density, 690-acre coastal scheme is as focused on protecting the local environment as providing a high-spec haven for residents. Integrated into the landscape and inspired by the architecture of surrounding villages, the initial phase will comprise a 176-berth marina with shops, restaurants, two hotels and Montenegro's first 18-hole Gary Player-designed golf course. And 300 LEED-certified apartments, 14 townhouses and four bespoke villas are being built beside the marina or on the hillside above. Prices range from €235,000 to €3,000,000. www.lusticabay.com



THE GROVE VILLAS

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Two superb new London villas located in one of Highgate's most historic and prestigious roads.

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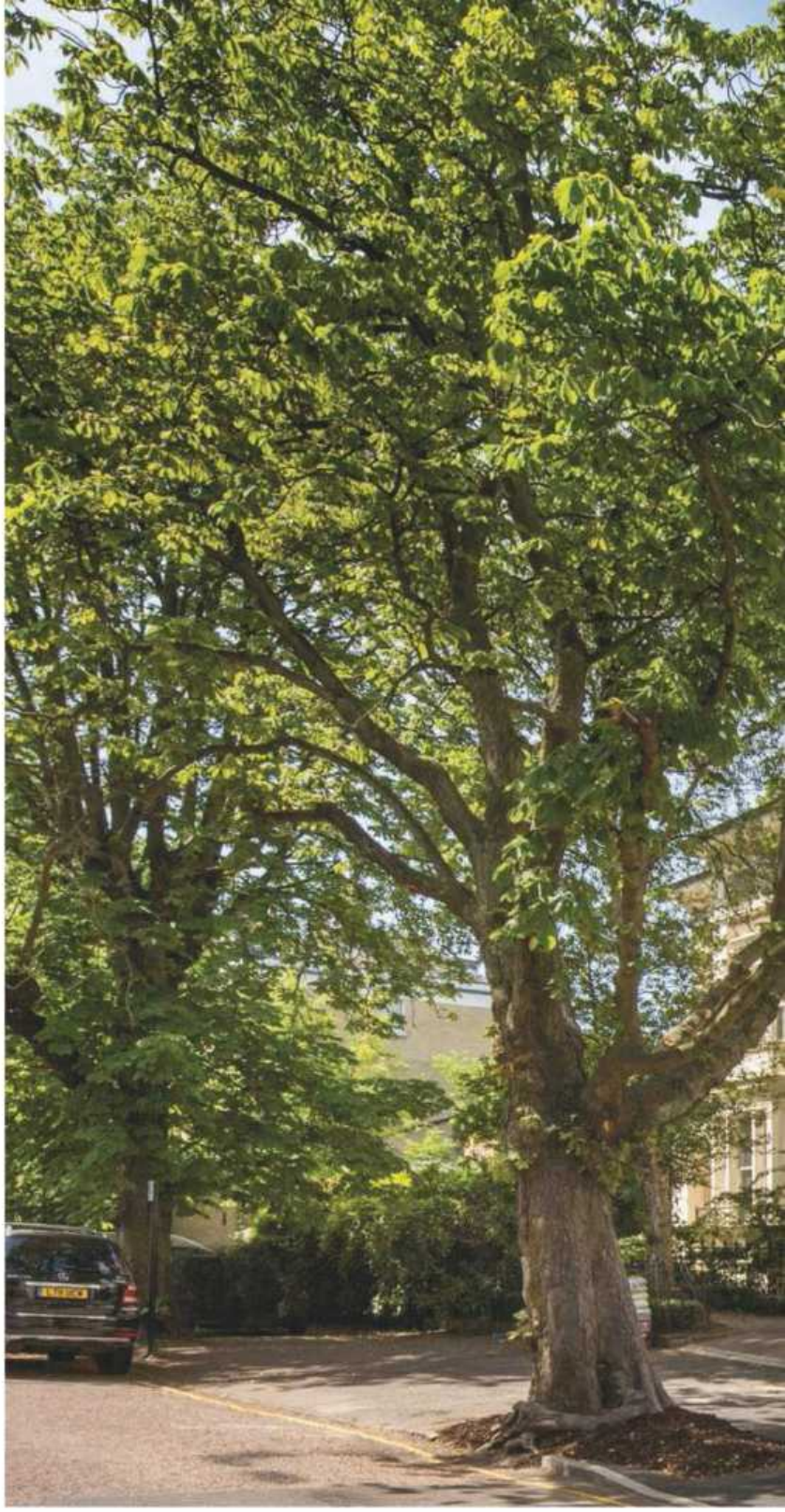
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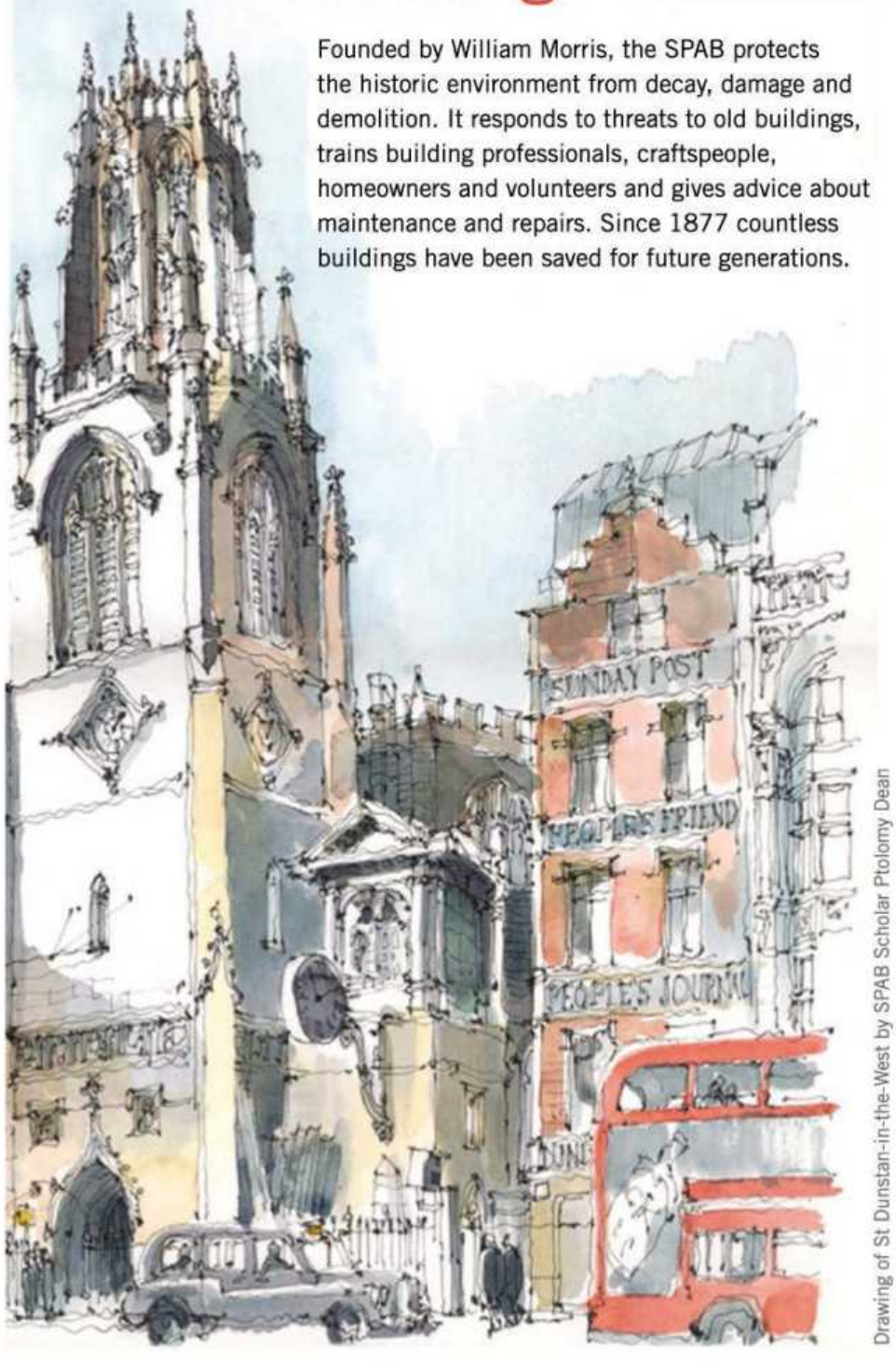




The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings

S·P·A·B

Founded by William Morris, the SPAB protects the historic environment from decay, damage and demolition. It responds to threats to old buildings, trains building professionals, craftspeople, homeowners and volunteers and gives advice about maintenance and repairs. Since 1877 countless buildings have been saved for future generations.



Drawing of St Dunstan-in-the-West by SPAB Scholar Ptolomy Dean

Information about maintaining your home is available through events, courses, lectures, publications and telephone advice.

To support our work why not join the SPAB? Members receive a quarterly magazine, our list of historic properties for sale and access to our regional activities.

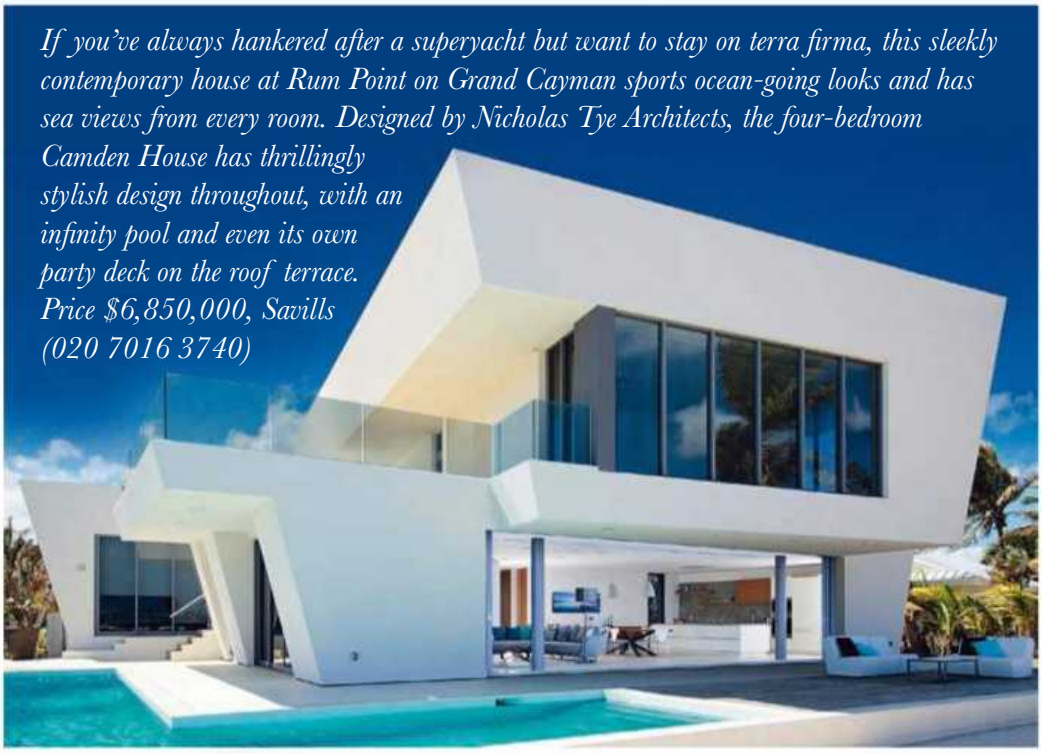
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PROPERTY

NOTEBOOK

Rosemary Brooke has the inside track on this month's property highlights



If you've always hankered after a superyacht but want to stay on terra firma, this sleekly contemporary house at Rum Point on Grand Cayman sports ocean-going looks and has sea views from every room. Designed by Nicholas Tye Architects, the four-bedroom Camden House has thrillingly stylish design throughout, with an infinity pool and even its own party deck on the roof terrace. Price $6,850,000, Savills (020 7016 3740)



PRIME OF LIFE

If you're hunting for a second home and are trying to track down the best international developments, then a new property website, Primenewdevelopments.com, is certainly worth exploring. It focuses specifically on residential and resort property, allowing developers to connect directly with potential buyers. The site is simple to navigate and free to use. 'We only charge a fee if a lead we deliver is turned into a sale. No sale, no fee,' says the company's founder, Charlie Smith, *pictured*, a former UK managing director of Sotheby's International Realty. Whether you're an adventure-seeker, a sun-worshipper or seeking a city pad, the site has each lifestyle choice covered. *www.primenewdevelopments.com*

Hidden gem

Tucked away down a quiet country lane at the edge of the picturesque village of Binfield, this Victorian house provides cosy, rural charm within commuting distance of London. With Heathrow airport a 30-minute drive away and excellent schools in the area, this five-bedroom house is a perfect base for busy families. At more than 2,600sq ft, there's plenty of space to relax. Outside, there are uninterrupted views across the surrounding farmland and three-quarters of an acre of lovely, mature gardens. It's priced at £1,250,000; for further information, contact Sara Batting on 0118 950 2341 or visit *www.sarabatting.co.uk*







From Georgian townhouses to modern penthouses, Victorian rectories to neoclassical manor house, the UK offers a lively mix of places to call home. With interest rates remaining low and a flurry of post-election activity, buyers are turning to acquisition agents for guidance. 'The market has been unsettled and this makes it hard for buyers to navigate through the vast array of choice available,' says Charlie Wells, managing director of buying agency Prime Purchase. His advice? 'Choose a knowledgeable agent who is part of a big team – they can draw on their collective market expertise so that any property purchase is also an investment.' www.prime-purchase.com



THE DOS AND DON'TS OF DECORATING, ACCORDING TO

India Mahdavi

The Iranian-born architect and designer, who opened her studio in Paris in 1999, is famous for her dramatic interiors









Bathrooms and kitchens should be furnished like any other room. My kitchen has curtains, a rug and a velvet screen – I cannot live in a slick way (1). • **Don't go for cheap wooden floors** – they can look like plastic. If you don't have the budget for good-quality wood, go for tiles. They are a good alternative and can be inexpensive (2). • **It's important to focus on perspective.** Wherever your eye takes you when you enter a room, something strong should be there. It could be a piece of art, a lamp, or a wall painted in a colour (3). **Place two sofas facing each other in a living area.** Two sofas together are like the eyebrows of a space: they make everything sit better. • **If you're on a tight budget**, get your big pieces from places such as Ikea and go for strong colours: you'll see the colour rather than the quality. Spend more money on the smaller objects, such as accessories (4). • **Velvet is a good fabric** to use as it comes in beautiful colours. I use velvet a lot because it's soft and curvy and I like straight flashes of colour in a room (5). • **Don't limit yourself to only one or two colours**; it's like matching your socks to your tie. One should experiment with colour and pattern – a harmony can come out of the chaos (6). • **Don't waste money on expensive radiators.** People get obsessed with them, but when the place is furnished, you don't notice them that much. • **Be generous with curtains**, but don't let them pool at the floor – they should just touch it. The standard is to allow for 20cm of fabric on either side of the window, but I give 50cm at least and sometimes I cover the whole wall (7). *india-mahdavi.com* □

1 A kitchen furnished with India's 'Double Diagonale' table and Franz West chairs. **2** 'Rain' tiles, by India Mahdavi, £153.60 a square metre, from Bisazza. **3** India has focused on perspective in Café Français in Paris. **4** 'Stockholm' sofa, £1,000, from Ikea. **5** 'Opera' (prairie, orange, turquoise), cotton velvet, £81.60, from Pierre Frey. **6** Bold colour in Le Germain restaurant, decorated by India. **7** Full-length curtains at the Hôtel Thoumieux – another of her projects

> Wherever your eye takes you when you enter a room, something strong should be there. It could be a piece of art, a lamp, or a wall painted in a colour

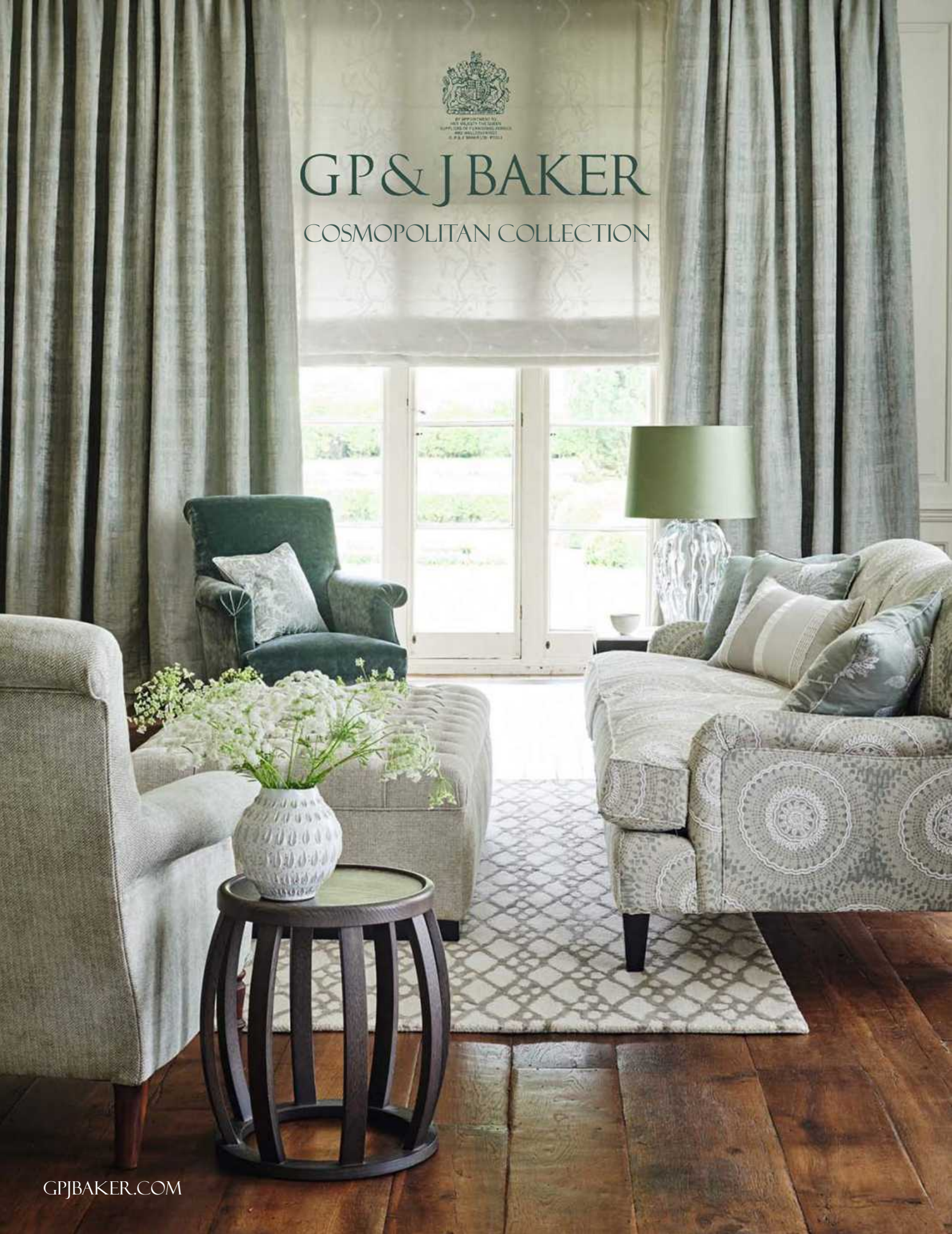


LORENZO CERETTA; MATTHIEU SALVAING; DEREK HUDSON; SUDHIR PITHWA; PAOLO ROVERSI



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